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THE TIMES

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Homes to be divided into seven bands

Heseltine's new council tax 'will lower bills'

By Robin Oakley, political editor, and Ray Clancy

MICHAEL Heseltine yesterday swept away the last vestiges of the community charge when he announced proposals for a council tax based on property values with a 25 per cent discount for people living alone.

After weeks of speculation, the environment secretary told MPs that homes would be taxed according to seven bands. He promised that average bills would be lower than those of the past three years. Capping powers would be augmented to keep down council spending.

Ministers greeted the proposals as the freeing of the Conservative party from political limbo and Chris Patten, the party chairman, will this morning relaunch the Tory local election campaign. Some Conservatives were worried, however, that the tax would not come into effect until 1993, well after the next election. Labour attacked the plans as a wasted opportunity.

Outlining the proposals in the Commons, Mr Heseltine declared: "The council tax will be simple and cheap to collect. It will require less of single adults than larger households. It will not impose excessive demands on any households. It will make a clear connection between what councils spend and what people pay. It will be seen to be fair."

This year a council that spent "reasonably" would have charged a household in the lowest band no more than £267 and one on the highest band no more than £668. Households with one adult would have paid no more than £200 in the lowest band and £500 in the highest.

Unlike the poll tax, there will be no register and no minimum contribution. Students, student nurses and trainees would be entitled to discounts and those on income support could pay nothing.

Mr Heseltine also announced the setting up of a local government commission to make recommendations for altering the structure of local government, but he promised that neither county nor district councils would be "abolished wholesale".

Tory MPs hailed the scrapping of poll tax as the end of a nightmare. Jonathan Aitken called Mr Heseltine "the great anaesthetist — he has taken away the pain".

There was some unease among Tories, however, as Labour developed the line of attack that middle-income earners would be hardest hit since those in the top band would pay only two and a half times those in the lowest, while the poorest were exempted. Bryan Gould, Labour's environment spokesman, said that the average family would pay £67 more under the Tory proposals than under Labour's plans. The rich would be protected from paying their share and the head tax element which remained bore no relation to ability to pay. Why should a single millionaire receive a 25 per cent discount while pensioner couples struggled on low incomes "to pay the whole whack"?

Calling Labour's arithmetic "specious" Mr Patten said: "We had to unravel this particularly difficult knot. We can now get the argument on to our own agenda. We have the opportunity to attack, which we shall seize."

Local government circles welcomed the demise of the poll tax and the rebates for those on low incomes, but feared confusion before the tax comes in. Alan Jinkinson, general secretary of the local government union Nalgo, said: "Billions of pounds will now be spent converting from a discredited system of taxation to an untried one. It will mean a further several years of confusion and chaos while the collection of the poll tax in the intervening period will be exacerbated."

Sir Jack Layden, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorites, described it as a Whitehall tax that would give "massive control to government ministers" who would be in effect setting the level of the new tax in every town. "The new tax is excessively complicated and unjust with the wealthy getting the best deal."

COUNCIL TAX: MAIN POINTS

- Bills based on property values
- *25 per cent discounts* for people living alone
- Seven property bands
- Head of household responsible for bill
- No new register
- 20 per cent minimum payment abolished
- Tough capping powers and transitional relief stay
- *Bills lower than* average rates or poll tax, government promises

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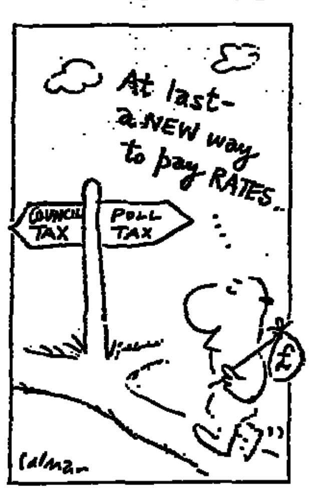

THE TIMES TODAY

ROYALTY

Prince Charles has long believed that he can speak for ordinary people on big issues, says Mary Ann Sieghart Page 18

PAINTING

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SPORT

Bjorn Borg made a dismal comeback yesterday. Andrew Longmore wonders where Borg goes from here Page 48

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Arms offer

President Bush has offered a secret compromise to Moscow on the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty, signed in Paris last November but still to be ratified..........Page 24

Pilot accused

A British Airways pilot, Captain William Glen Stewart, whose jumbo jet, carrying 255 passengers, is alleged to have skimmed buildings, is accused of criminal negligence and putting his aircraft in danger..........Page 3

Swift justice

According to the terms of a new agreement reached between police, prosecutors and magistrates, most people accused of drink-driving offences will appear in court within three weeks of their arrest..........Page 8

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Directors blame Tories for slump

By Ross Tieman, industrial correspondent

THE Institute of Directors yesterday savagely criticised the government for allowing inflation to resurge and called for a return to free market ideals in Downing Street.

Peter Morgan, director-general of the right-wing institute, charged that "the business renaissance of the last decade was torpedoed by runaway inflation". To applause from members at the institute's annual convention in London, he said: "This awful recession which is causing so much grief is a failure of government economic management."

Robert Horton, chairman of British Petroleum, said: "The fact is that after 12 years [of Conservative government] we are still beset by inflation ... Our productivity levels are behind many of our competitors ... Our pay settlements are far too high. And our labour market is riddled with imperfections which prevent it from working properly."

Earlier, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, reiterated his Budget view that economic growth would resume, slowly at first, in the second half of the year. He did not stay to hear the criticism of the government.

Full details, page 25
Conference reports, page 26
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A talk in the park: the Queen and President Walesa of Poland exchange smiles during their journey in a landau through Windsor Great Park yesterday

Refugees caught on highway of death

Death and disease are the grim travelling companions of fleeing refugees, reports ***Edward Gorman from inside Iraq***

An international cross-border relief effort is needed on the road between Diana in northern Iraq and Piranshahr in Iran to save hundreds of children and old people facing death from the effects of diarrhoea, dehydration and exhaustion.

After crossing the border on Saturday, I travelled the length of the road that winds through a gorge for about 30 miles below the snowline to the plains. Along the way it became clear that the decision of the Iranian authorities to close the border, particularly to families in cars, some of whom had waited for more than a week to get through, had condemned hundreds to death.

At the head of the road and for several miles back from the border, the way was jammed with vehicles and was passable only on foot. It was impossible to tell whether people were trying to get out or had decided to turn back. The motionless lorries, cars, tractor trailers, and even bulldozers, fire engines and cement mixers used in the head-long rush to escape was reminiscent of the flight of the Iraqi army which was incinerated by the allies on the road to Basra.

The vehicles were full of people who had not eaten a proper meal for days. They were drinking water they had washed in and, with no petrol left to keep their vehicle heaters on at night, were suffering in the sub-zero temperatures. Children and parents sat staring, speechless, either in the cars or on the grass, where mines left from the Iran-Iraq war have caused injuries requiring amputations.

A French nurse sitting in the back of a pick-up truck, stuck a few hundred yards inside Iraqi territory with

Continued page 24, col 4

US warships on alert in warning to Saddam

From Christopher Walker *in Zakho and* Martin Fletcher *in Washington*

A FRESH confrontation loomed between Iraq and the West as more American warships were sent to the eastern Mediterranean yesterday in a clear warning to Iraq not to interfere with the allied relief operation.

The US Navy said this was in response to growing tension in the border town of Zakho, where American marines building camps for Kurdish refugees are being watched by hundreds of Iraqis forces who have defied an order from allied commanders to leave.

By contrast, US-Iranian relations took a dramatic step forward as Washington agreed to an Iranian request to supply tents, blankets and medicines for Kurdish refugees in Iran, and may use American aircraft to deliver them. Diplomatic relations were severed in 1979 over the embassy siege in Tehran, and normalisation is still held up by demands that Iran use its influence to secure the release of Western hostages in Lebanon. The new aid deal was negotiated through humanitarian agencies and Swiss intermediaries.

In Zakho, frightened residents said the Iraqi "special forces" had been bussed in three days ago and had forced Kurds to put back portraits of the hated President Saddam Hussein. Kurdish tribal leaders were being intimidated by the Iraqi presence and yesterday failed to attend their first scheduled meeting with senior US officers.

The Pentagon said Iraqi troops were asserting Iraqi sovereignty by "demonstrating a presence". Washington would not "make a big issue" of Zakho at this stage because Iraqi actions were not yet interfering with the relief operation or the building of the new camps. But a spokesman admitted problems could arise if terrified refugees refused to leave their mountain refuges because of the Iraq "military police-type force".

An advance party of Royal Marines arrived in northern Iraq yesterday to set up a headquarters for the relief operation. They plan to hike into the mountains to persuade Kurdish refugees to come down into the valley. That task could be made more difficult while Iraqi special forces patrol Zakho, intimidating the residents.

The aircraft carrier Theodore Roosevelt, which carries about 80 warplanes, and the guided missile cruiser Richmond K. Turner were moving from the Red Sea to strengthen warships from the sixth Fleet off the coast of Turkey. While there have been no clashes between the two armies that were at war just two months ago, the American marines in Zakho complained that they found the Iraqi presence menacing. For the Kurdish refugees they are trying to coax down from the mountains, it is even more so.

"Intimidation levels are really growing. It's a very, very tricky situation. I'm telling you, it's getting wild over there," said Staff Sergeant Lee Tibbets, a spokesman for the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit which is in charge of security for the camp on the outskirts of Zakho. The marines say it is too dangerous to enter Zakho at night.

"Saddam wants these forces to have a high profile in Zakho so the people don't think he's being bullied by the Americans," said Mohammed Tofik, a spokesman for the Iraqi Kurdistan Front. "But Saddam won't risk any clashes with Americans."

Meanwhile, it was reported in London that nine nations have promised to pay the government £2 billion to meet the costs of Britain's role in the military effort to drive Saddam out of Iraq.

Zakho tension, page 12
Focus on Kuwait, pages 30-32

Gorbachev prepares for party showdown

By Our Foreign Staff

PRESIDENT Gorbachev faces a fierce denunciation of his record when the Communist party central committee convenes today, and according to some sources he could be forced to step down after six years as general secretary while retaining his post as president.

Yesterday he implored leaders of the republics to support his anti-crisis emergency programme, but they dismissed it as "vague and utopian". Vitali Ignatenko, Mr Gorbachev's chief spokesman, predicted "sharp and frank" attacks on the Soviet leader today, but said that Mr Gorbachev would fight back.

Mr Ignatenko blamed the moves to unseat Mr Gorbachev on "reactionary apparatchiks" opposed to perestroika. Communist organisations have denounced Mr Gorbachev, but *Pravda* insisted that there was "no alternative" to his rule.

Gorbachev's plea, page 10

Red carpet comes out for Walesa

By Michael Binyon
Diplomatic editor

NEVER in their 45 years in England had the three old soldiers seen their native Poland so honoured. With red and white sashes proudly worn over a chestful of medals, they held aloft the banner of free Poland to greet President Walesa as he stepped forward with a gruff dignity and a brief bow to shake hands with the Queen.

It was a long way for the brave veterans from exile in Siberia, escape to wartime England and fighting on the Normandy beaches to the gentle green of Windsor Great Park, where they joined the small crowd of cheering Poles. It was a long way also from the Gdansk shipyards, imprisonment and a decade of tumultuous political struggle for the burly electrician who now stood with Her Majesty on the dais at the start of a four-day state visit.

As tribute to the man who began a decade ago to hammer at the walls of totalitarianism,

Continued on page 24, col 2

How Ratner keeps the customers satisfied

Ratner: "I give customers what they want"

By our industrial reporter

GERALD Ratner, chairman and managing director of Britain's biggest jeweller, Ratners Group, yesterday leaped into controversy by declaring that his business success was founded on selling people what they wanted: "total crap."

It was an outrageous admission from the head of a company which only 24 hours before had announced record profits of £112 million. But it did the trick. It won him the attention of his audience despite his tailend Charlie slot at the annual convention of the Institute of Directors in London.

That was no small achievement. Albert Hall had already resounded to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Norman Lamont, to the verbal pyrotechnics of the BP chairman, Robert Horton, the institute's director general, Peter Morgan, and to the weighty tones of President de Klerk of South Africa. By the time Mr Ratner stepped on stage, the contents of a seven-course lunchbox and the port and brandy that followed were already beginning to weigh heavily in the stomachs of 3,000 company directors. But Mr Ratner's words were enough to provoke indigestion. He spilled the secret of his business success.

In Ratners' 1,000 shops across Britain, Mr Ratner said, in addition to jewellery "we sell things like a teapot for two quid or an imitation open book to lay on your coffee table. The pages don't turn — but they have beautifully curled up corners and genuine antique dust. I know it is in the worst possible taste, but we sold a quarter of a million last year." His audience began to smile appreciatively at his frankness.

"We also do cut glass sherry decanters complete with six glasses on a silver plated tray — that your butler can serve you drinks on — all for £4.95. People say how can you sell this for such a low price. I say because it is total crap." The businessmen and women started to clap. There was more: "Some people say they cannot even see the jewellery for all the posters and banners smothering the shop windows. It is interesting, isn't it, that these shops, that everyone has a good laugh about, take more money per square foot than any other retailer in Europe. Why? Because we give the customers what they want."

Mr Ratner moved in for the coup de grace. "We even sell a pair of earrings for under £1, which is cheaper than a prawn sandwich from Marks & Spencers. But I have to say the earrings probably won't last as long."

Photograph, page 24

APPEAL FOR REFUGEES

The International Refugee Year Trust is dedicated to relieving the suffering of the world's 40 million refugees and displaced people.

It provides food, clothing, medicines and skilled personnel to help the victims of war, natural disaster and economic catastrophe.

To make a donation or find out more, please complete the coupon below.

International Refugee Year Trust
Patron: Mother Teresa

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TED BATH

All the world's a stage: Alan Fayaz's Macbeth remonstrates with Maria Capoluongo's Lady Macbeth at North Westminster community school, London, where the play was being rehearsed yesterday

The eye of childhood captures the Bard

By JOHN YOUNG

"Infirm of purpose! Give me the daggers. The sleeping and the dead are but as pictures; 'tis the eye of childhood that fears a painted devil."

For the umpteen millionth time, Macbeth is being harangued as a wimp by his other half, this time in the persons of Alan Fayaz and Maria Capoluongo, both aged 12 and pupils at North Westminster community school, just off the Harrow Road. Alan's parents are from Iran, Maria's from Italy; Alan and Maria were both born in Britain and enunciate their lines quite beautifully.

Last week, it was Oedipus and the Greek theatre. Next week, it will be medieval mystery and morality plays. In the meantime, Shakespeare, despite the din from next door where four or five children are trying to play the piano at once, is getting an encouragingly sympathetic hearing. Maria and Alan consider the Prince of Wales's strictures slightly unfair, at least so far as their school is concerned. Maria has seen *Hamlet* on television, read *Othello* and been to see *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Regent's Park. "I enjoy Shakespeare," she says. "He's really good."

Alan says: "To be fair, Prince Charles couldn't have been talking about *every* school; not ours anyway. We do a lot of Shakespeare, and it's very interesting."

Their audience is more guarded. "It's all right," Jenny McNeill concedes. "We watched a film of *Romeo and Juliet*," Yun Choy Chan says. "I felt it was OK, but sometimes there was a bit too much carrying on." "A bit soppy for me," Zuber Hussein adds. "I like things more action packed."

Their drama teacher, Morag Marshalsey, from Fife, who has taught for five years in London, loves Shakespeare and says that on the whole her pupils' reaction is very positive. "If you are teaching drama, you have to teach Shakespeare as part of the whole history of the theatre.

"I have to say I think Prince Charles is quite right. But motivation depends on discipline. I see vast differences between my own schooldays in Scotland and teaching in London."

A few streets away, Mark Pattenden has just finished rehearsing A-level students in *Measure for Measure*. "We are given the option not to include Shakespeare in the syllabus," he points out. "But I always choose to do so.

"The students' attitude to Shakespeare when they first come across him is usually 'Oh God, not that man in tights'. But when they listen they see that a play like *Measure for Measure* transcends its period. The issues are still just as relevant."

School forced to suspend tests

By ADAM FRESCO

FIFTY parents of seven-year olds have forced the headmaster of a Cardiff primary school to suspend national curriculum testing of their children after complaining that the pupils were becoming distressed and not sleeping.

The parents had threatened to withdraw the pupils unless the testing was stopped. They said that after the tests began a week ago the children had become disruptive at home, anxious before setting off for school and suffering insomnia. The headmaster of Gabalfa primary school has suspended the tests until a meeting with parents next week. The school had hoped that the tests could be slotted in to the everyday running of lessons without children feeling added pressure.

Gethin Lewis, the headmaster, said yesterday: "I didn't want to have children kept at home and I told the parents I would rather put the tests on hold for this week and we will look into the effects."

The move comes as parents in Leeds, Sally and John Charlton, claimed they had found loophole in the provisions for testing, enabling them to keep their child from taking them. The couple had kept their son Mark away from Brudenell First school in Hyde Park, Leeds, for four days to avoid the tests in mathematics, English and science.

Mr Charlton said: "We have handed in a letter to Mrs Priestley asking for exemption. She has two weeks to consider the application. If she responds in the negative, we can appeal to the school governors and, if necessary to the Lords."

A Leeds education spokesman said the authority's understanding of the law was that the clause was meant to apply to sick or emotionally disturbed children, but the decision was up to the headteacher.

BBC TV to cut 720 jobs

More than 720 BBC television producers, technicians and post-production staff are to lose their jobs during the present financial year as part of a plan to achieve savings of £25 million annually in the division by 1993.

Broadcasting unions were told of the redundancies yesterday. Nine per cent of the corporation's London-based television staff are to go, at a saving of £14.5 million. Will Wyatt, the BBC's managing director designate of television, said he hoped most of the redundancies would be achieved voluntarily, but that compulsory redundancies would be "unavoidable".

MP's bag stolen

Rosie Barnes, the Social Democrat MP for Greenwich, had her bag snatched during a shopping trip in Lewisham, southeast London. She was leaving her car in the underground car park of a Tesco store when the thief grabbed the bag from her shoulder and escaped in a car driven by an accomplice. Mrs Barnes, who chased the man and made a note of the car number, said that she felt outraged.

Embassy plans

Plans for a new British embassy in Dublin, to replace the building burnt down in 1972, were unveiled last night by Sir Nicholas Fenn, the British ambassador. Allies & Morrison, who beat three other architects for the commission, has designed a three-storey building with Georgian references. All four designs are being shown at the Royal Institute of Architects of Ireland, in Dublin.

Rail talks fail

Talks between British Rail and unions broke down yesterday after nearly three hours over a new 7 per cent pay offer. BR said the offer, an increase of half a per cent, was final and would apply to 95,000 staff. Jimmy Knapp, leader of the Rail, Maritime and Transport union, said the new offer was unacceptable and it was possible industrial action would be recommended to his executive.

CORRECTION

In yesterday's paper it was reported that 400,000 bottles of wine could be lost from this year's Bordeaux production. The figure should have been 400 million bottles.

Buying The Times overseas: Austria Sch 32; Belgium B Frs 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 220; Cyprus 90 cents; Denmark Dkr 14.00; Finland Mkk 12.00; France F 11.00; W Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 300; Holland Gl 4.00; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 3,000; Luxembourg Lf 60; Madeira Esc 220; Malta 43c; Morocco Dir 20.00; Norway Kr 14.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 220; Spain Pes 220; Sweden Skr 16.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.50; Tunisia Din 1.50; USA $3.00.

Study of Shakespeare is rarely dodged in exams

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE Prince of Wales can be reassured that the study of Shakespeare is alive and well in England, although some schools do dodge him. He figures in nearly all public examinations, children as young as 13 are staging his plays and he is enshrined in the national curriculum.

In the Shakespeare annual lecture, the prince said that Britain's schools were ignoring the Bard and that, as a result, educational standards were dropping. One A-level course would pass students who had not read a word of Shakespeare's plays or sonnets, he said.

He was probably referring to the A-level courses set by the Associated Examining Board and the Joint Matriculation Board. The AEB joint language and literature course does include Shakespeare, but he is not compulsory. Candidates do, however, have to choose between Shakespeare and Chaucer. George Turnbull, for the board, said: "They can avoid Shakespeare, but they cannot avoid classical literature." He added that Shakespeare was compulsory in A-level literature.

Shakespeare can be dodged in GCSE papers which offer him as an optional question — but not for long. All pupils aged 14 will have to study Shakespeare from September 1992 for the examination in the summer of 1994, to comply with the national curriculum, which makes Shakespeare a compulsory part of the joint English paper.

Until then, schools are offering English language and literature as two separate examinations. Only one GCSE board ignored Shakespeare in the written paper. Chris Taylor, of the London and East Anglian group, said that the Bard's work was not one of the texts used in the written paper, which included Charles Dickens, William Golding and Gerald Durrell.

The general view of all the examination boards was that they offered Shakespeare in their syllabuses, but it was up to the schools to decide whether or not their pupils should study him. Dick Whittaker, of the Northern Examination Association, said that, although Shakespeare was optional in all their GCSE papers, he was chosen by many pupils.

The 14,000 candidates sitting the association's written examination last year could choose from five prose texts, which had to include a novel written before the 20th century, and a selection of short stories or five drama texts, which would have included one Shakespeare play. A second syllabus based on drama, prose and poetry set and marked by the schools on the advice of the board attracted 47,000 entries. Most schools chose some Shakespeare, but it was quite often based on extracts rather than one work, Mr Whittaker said.

The most popular examination was the joint English language and literature course, taken by 100,000 students. Mr Whittaker insisted that many students chose to write about Shakespeare.

Written GCSE papers set by the Midland Examining Group include excerpts from *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Much Ado About Nothing*, alongside other authors. However, as children have to answer only two questions, they can avoid Shakespeare. Even in the drama section, Shakespeare can be avoided if candidates opt for other authors. When it comes to A-level literature, however, Shakespeare cannot be dodged. All the papers demand knowledge of two Shakespeare plays out of list of three or four plays.

Geoffrey Parker, High Master of Manchester grammar school, shared the prince's concern. "I have a lot of sympathy with Prince Charles's comments on English literature. There is a great worry about the possible removal of Shakespeare from schools all over the country."

Details of speech questioned

AS DETAILS of the prince's speech were mulled over yesterday, a handful of factual mistakes and misunderstandings emerged to support the immediate reaction of Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, who accepted the general tone but questioned some statistics (David Tytler writes).

Referring to nursery education, the prince said that in France, Italy, and Belgium, every child received nursery education from the state while in Britain "less than half our children have that right". In France, 99 per cent of the under-fives have nursery education, with 13 per cent financed privately; in Belgium, 97 per cent (58 per cent privately) while in Italy 81 per cent have nursery education (33 per cent privately). The government says the figure for England and Wales is 91 per cent if all pre-school provision such as nursery classes and play groups are included.

The prince seemed slightly behind the national curriculum when he said that most children did not begin to learn a modern language until they were 11 and then gave them up when they were 14. That has been largely true, with many children not being offered a modern language. Under the national curriculum, however, all secondary school children will have to learn a modern language when they are 11 and will have to continue with it until they are 16.

They greyest area is on the staying-on rates for 16 to 18 year olds. The prince said that only a third of Britain's 16-18 year olds continued in full-time education compared with France (66 per cent), Japan (77 per cent), the US (79 per cent) and The Netherlands (77 per cent).

Those figures were correct in 1986 and are the latest available for the overseas countries, but the British figure has risen to 37 per cent with a further 27 per cent in full or part-time training.

Prince's concern strikes a chord on banks of Avon

By CRAIG SETON

THE Prince of Wales's concern that thousands of school leavers may never have read Shakespeare struck a resounding chord yesterday at the Bard's old school in Stratford-upon-Avon, where the obligation to teach his works is as well entrenched as the foundations of the 15th-century building.

Peter Bullock, head of English at King Edward VI grammar school, was delighted that the prince had expressed the fear he too holds that children at some schools are being denied their literary heritage by educationists.

Mr Bullock, aged 54, ensures that Shakespeare remains on the curriculum for all children taking GCSE and A-level courses and believes that the Bard's works should be compulsory for all pupils from the age of 14. This year *Macbeth, Antony and Cleopatra* and *Romeo and Juliet* are being studied at the 400-pupil voluntary-aided school.

Mr Bullock said: "I do feel it is an obligation to teach Shakespeare at his old school, but if I was at a school in Wigan I would want to teach Shakespeare. There is no compulsion to teach Shakespeare at GCSE and it is possible for a pupil to leave school at 16 without having read any real classic. Chaucer and Milton used to be compulsory, but now they are an option."

He said a progressive educational philosphy had developed over the last 20-25 years that children could learn simply by being together and added: "I know it sounds reactionary, but many classrooms have become adventure playgrounds and not places for discipline in learning." Children who did not study Shakespeare missed out on their cultural heritage and a vital ingredient in the study of the language. A trend had become prevalent in universities where some students studied a narrowing band of literature, such as feminist writing.

Mr Bullock's opposition to "trendiness" is not new. Two years ago he stopped taking parties of his pupils to the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford because he of modern interpretations of the Bard's plays by "trendy directors".

The Prince of Wales's speech in Stratford was at the invitation of Professor Stanley Wells, director of Birmingham University's post-graduate Shakespeare Institute, which has a base in Stratford. Professor Wells had no prior knowledge that the prince would promote the teaching of Shakespeare in schools. He said yesterday: "I certainly agree we should do our best to get Shakespeare taught in schools. We also have to face up to the difficulties, that I am sure he is aware of, of teachers faced with unwilling pupils and lacking adequate resources."

He said there had been a recent broadening of the scope of dramatic and literary works available for teaching, notably more women, ethnic and 20th century writers. He added: "That reduces the number of British writers of the past who can be taught and Shakespeare is in danger of suffering as a result."

As a boy the professor and his contemporaries had to study at least one Shakespeare play, but Shakespeare had to be taught to the highest standards. He well understood why Prince Charles had been unmoved by Julius Caesar at Gordonstoun, but it was a safe play for pupils, as it had "no sex and not much violence."

He added: "You still get children being taught Shakespeare by reading around the class. That is absolutely deadly."

Touring group fills a breach

By SIMON TAIT
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SHAKESPEARE has an undiminished appeal for theatre audiences.

In the West End, one can see *Coriolanus* and *A Winter's Tale* by the English Shakespeare Company, *King Lear, Much Ado About Nothing, Love's Labour's Lost, Comedy of Errors* and *Troilus and Cressida* by the Royal Shakespeare Company, *Richard III* by the National Theatre or *Twelfth Night* by the Peter Hall Company.

The closure of the British Theatre Association library last year has meant that there is no longer any means of matching the number of current performances with previous years, but the spread of West End Shakespeare is not matched in the provinces. Shakespeare is expensive to put on, needing casts of at least a dozen.

Aside from Stratford, where the RSC has *Henry IV Parts I and II, Twelfth Night, Romeo and Juliet* and *Two Gentlemen of Verona* this season, there are three Shakespeares in main regional theatres: *Hamlet* at the Bristol Old Vic, *Julius Caesar* at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre and *Much Ado About Nothing* at the Nuffield, Southampton. The English Shakespeare Company is touring with the *Merchant of Venice*.

Sir Peter: "An appalling state of affairs"

Sir Peter Hall, former artistic director of the National Theatre and the RSC and now with his own company, said last night: "For the last ten to 12 years, regional theatres have been squeezed and squeezed until they can't do any Shakespeare any more. Actors going to the national companies now may never have acted in a Shakespeare play, and audiences in the regions may never have seen one, an appalling state of affairs. That's why the work of companies like the ESC is so important."

Michael Pennington and Michael Bogdanov set up the ESC five years ago as a touring company and were advised to make Shakespeare their theme by the Arts Council. "The public enthusiasm for Shakespeare is just the same as when we started," said Mr Pennington, who is starring in both London productions, which have been markedly more successful during their regional tour than they have been in the West End.

Reading methods attacked

READING standards may be lowered by the introduction of the national curriculum, the man who prompted the latest debate on teaching methods claims today in a report published by the Centre for Policy Studies (John O'Leary writes).

Martin Turner, an educational psychologist whose claims that reading standards were falling sparked government enquiries last summer, argues that unsound teaching methods are enshrined in the new curriculum for English. The "phonic" method of teaching reading by using the alphabet to decode words receives only a passing mention in the curriculum, encouraging unsound methods.

Traditional methods are being undermined by the curriculum, Mr Turner says. Instead of becoming familiar with the alphabet, children are encouraged to guess words. He calls for the replacement of laborious testing methods by simple "paper and pencil" tests.

Private sector grows despite recession

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

INDEPENDENT schools have overcome the recession to record their eighth successive rise in pupils, their information service reported yesterday.

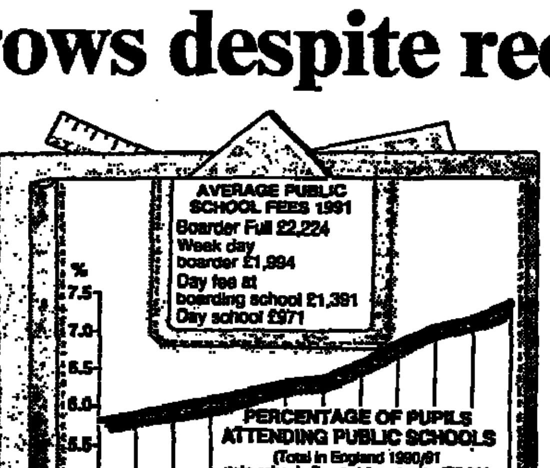
Parents are responding to the fears voiced by the Prince of Wales by putting record numbers of children into private schools to start their education. Only boarding and sixth forms are proving sensitive to fee rises, which continue to outpace inflation.

The annual census of schools belonging to the Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS), which represents 80 per cent of the private sector, showed that the number of pupils were up slightly to 473,000 this year. Almost a quarter were receiving help through scholarships or bursaries.

A decline in pupil numbers during the last recession, combined with several recent school closures, had encouraged speculation that yesterday's census would mark the end of a record period of expansion. Instead, the figures showed that at least 7.5 per cent of all pupils now attend independent schools.

David Woodhead, the ISIS director, admitted that he would not have been surprised if numbers had declined in a year when fees rose by 12.5 per cent. He said, however: "While the recession may have caused some children to be withdrawn from independent schools or not to have been sent, it has not been enough to reverse the upward trend which has been evident since 1983."

Parents valued the small classes, strong discipline and wide curriculum that the schools offered. Many parents now had the protection of fee insurance schemes, while others were prepared to make any sacrifice to ensure that their children's education was not disrupted.



Fees have risen faster than inflation for the past six years, reflecting higher salaries and building costs. Donald Caskie, who chairs the bursars' association, said that the trend was likely to continue.

The survey showed 4.6 per cent fewer boys and 2.8 per cent fewer girls boarding, but the numbers of weekly boarders increased over the same period.

Enid Castle, the headmistress of Cheltenham Ladies College, said that parents were looking for places nearer home and wanted more flexible arrangements so that they could see their children regularly. Boarding has been in decline for more than a decade.

The largest increases were among nursery pupils and infants under seven. David Prichard, chairman of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, said: "I find the majority of parents who come to my study say their child is not being stretched. They know their child has more ability than their school recognises."

Only from the age of 14 do numbers begin to drop, after the lower numbers in secondary schools nationally. This year's drop in independent sixth form enrolments is the first since 1985.

While boarding continued to decline, the number of day pupils more than compensated, rising by 1.7 per cent. The rise among girls, who represent 45 per cent of pupils in ISIS schools, was again greater than that for boys.

Jane Bidder, page 16

Appraisal link angers teachers

DRAFT regulations for the compulsory appraisal of teachers were issued by the government yesterday and immediately ran into trouble with one of the largest teacher unions (David Tytler writes).

Nigel de Gruchy, secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, said that the draft conflicted with ministers' guarantees that pay and appraisal would not be linked directly. "We have obviously been consulted on a false prospectus," he said.

All the teacher unions have said that they will refuse to cooperate with appraisal, which is to be introduced in September, if there is a direct link with pay or promotion. The draft says that there will be no direct link but headteachers should take the appraisal statement into account when making decisions on promotion and pay.

The education department insisted last night that there were no significant changes from earlier proposals.

هكذا عن الاصل

Pilot's negligence could have led to disaster, court told

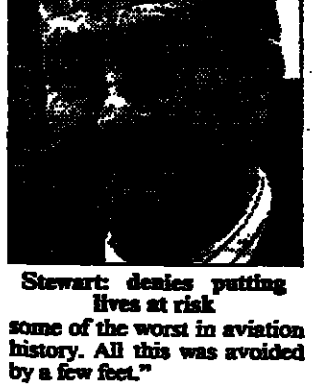
By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the worst accidents in aviation history was avoided by 12ft when a British Airways jumbo jet carrying 255 passengers skimmed buildings 200 yards from the main runway at Heathrow after missing its landing approach, a court was told yesterday.

The jet's captain, William Glen Stewart, of Wokingham, Berkshire, was accused on two counts of criminal negligence and putting his aircraft, passengers and people on the ground in danger. He denied the charges.

Isleworth crown court in London was told that for 17 seconds he did nothing as red lights on his instrument panel warned him that he was flying further and further from a safe touch-down. Many motorists on the ground and workers in the buildings over which the aircraft passed were convinced that it would crash, the court was told. Even when Captain Stewart eventually pulled up and went around he reacted three times slower than he should have done, David Morris, for the prosecution, said.

"If that aircraft had not managed to abort its landing attempt when it did and it had carried on for a few more seconds, or perhaps even less, and crashed, it is plain that the consequences would have been catastrophic," Mr Morris said. "A wide-bodied jet crash landing at 150 knots in that area would have wrought such death and destruction as to place the accident among some of the worst in aviation history. All this was avoided by a few feet."



Stewart: denies putting lives at risk

The jury heard how the British Airways flight from Bahrain on November 21 1989 had been instructed to head for runway 27 right, which runs east to west along the northern edge of Heathrow airport. As it emerged from low cloud soon after 8am, drivers near by saw it pass over their heads filling the whole of their windscreens and convincing many that it would crash.

A reconstruction of the flight from the "black box" recorder showed that the aircraft had been as low as 75ft from the ground. The telephone exchange over which it passed is 63ft high.

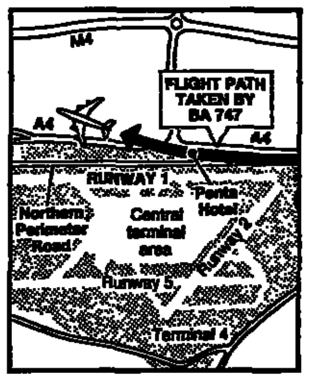
Mr Morris said: "Captain Stewart was criminally responsible for placing his aircraft, passengers and people on the ground in this perilous position." Although he was an experienced pilot, aged 54 and with 14,750 flying hours, "sometimes experienced pilots, like experienced motorists, fall below the standards required. He did just that."

On the flight from Bahrain the first officer had been ill with food poisoning and Captain Stewart had allowed him to spend much of the flight resting. The first officer was also not fully qualified to operate the type of instrument landing required.

Mr Morris described how the aircraft had been guided by air traffic control down to 3,000ft and ordered to report when it was fully locked on to the radio beam indicating the centre line of the runway. One of the auto-pilots that had to be used for a landing in such poor visibility, with cloud down to 150ft, responded slowly and allowed the aircraft to fly through the beam.

"The black box reveals how at that point the progress started to go wrong. What began as a minor and easily corrected hitch was allowed to develop into one of grave danger to the aircraft, its occupants and people on the ground," Mr Morris said.

As the aircraft descended at a rate of 14ft per second, the automatic pilot continued to fly through the localiser beam. Had it established the aircraft for an automatic landing two lights should have illuminated on the instrument panel, but there was no evidence of that.



By the time the aircraft had reached 1,000ft without being established a trained pilot should have immediately aborted the landing and gone round again. Captain Stewart did not do so, Mr Morris said. "The aircraft was weaving from side to side of the localiser and at no time had settled down."

As aircraft approaching the same Heathrow runway passed overhead, the court was told how Captain Stewart finally disconnected the autopilot and took control himself. "Seventeen seconds in aviation terms is an awful long time," Mr Morris said. As the aircraft pulled away it took 16 seconds to reach the correct climbing angle, three times longer than usual. "This suggests that he failed to respond with the degree of urgency which the situation demanded."

The aircraft's purser, Roger Chambers, said that he saw the aircraft flying closer than usual to hotels along the A4, and he noticed the Ariel hotel on the right. Benjamin Chilcott, an office worker, described how he was on the second floor of the Cardinal Point office block when he saw the jet coming towards him "worryingly low". The aircraft was climbing, and he described how it would have passed over the Penta hotel.

The hearing continues today.

Poll pledge plea on animal rights

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ANIMAL rights' campaigners published a manifesto yesterday to persuade the main political parties to make electoral commitments to phase out intensive farming methods, animal experiments and the fur trade.

The Manifesto for Animals launched by the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, Compassion in World Farming and Lynx set out a practical programme of controls reflecting the protests sent to MPs about animal cruelty. It steers clear of the party political differences over animal rights, such as hunting, in an attempt to present a non-partisan agenda acceptable to most Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat voters.

The programme included:

☐ an annual 10 per cut in the number of animals used in experiments;
☐ an immediate ban on animal experiments for cosmetics, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, the LD50 and Draize tests;
☐ development of non-animal research methods;
☐ phasing out battery chicken cages over ten years;
☐ amending 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act to ban all snares;
☐ government pressure for an EC ban on the import of furs from wild-caught animals; and
☐ a ban on all fur factories.

The manifesto, launched at a Westminster press conference, was supported by an MP from the three main parties and will be sent to prospective parliamentary candidates. In turn the three groups will ask voters to put pressure on candidates in the next general election campaign to back the changes.

Chris Fisher, general secretary of the BUAV, said: "The British people are enormously concerned about animal issues and it is time this concern was reflected in the policies of all political parties. The manifesto for animals provides a programme that will turn public opinion into political action."

● Unions representing the 300 staff at London zoo are seeking a meeting with the environment department to outline an action plan aimed at saving their jobs and the zoo from closure (Michael Horsnell writes).

In line with the Zoological Society of London, the MSF which represents scientific and administrative staff, together with the GMB, which represents keepers, wants capital investment to keep the zoo alive in Regent's Park with a reduced animal population.

If the zoo closes in September the cost of dismantling it and paying out redundancy is estimated at £4.5 million — almost exactly the amount left in the zoo's coffers from the government's £10 million final pay-out in 1988.

Roger Lyons, assistant general secretary of the MSF, said staff were not planning industrial action in the interests of the animals even if the government continues to refuse support.

Leading article, page 18

Strip man alleges racism

A STRIP-A-GRAM who denies indecently assaulting 11 women told a court yesterday that he was racially abused and attacked by one of them.

Michael Crosby said that Christine Carter kicked him in the groin after repeatedly calling him either a "black bastard" or a "nigger". Mr Crosby, aged 32, of Tottenham, north London, told Kingston crown court that he was also racially abused by Jennifer Cairns.

He said that Miss Cairns, who was celebrating her birthday, was so unco-operative he had to abandon his act. Other clients he allegedly indecently assaulted had enjoyed his act of posing as a policeman, arresting them and then stripping himself.

Mr Crosby told police that he was faithful to his fiancée and that his work "did not turn him on". The trial continues today.

JOHN MANNING

Wise heads: children of Westminster cathedral school wearing safety helmets when Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, launched a £1.2 million campaign in London yesterday to cut death and injuries among child cyclists by persuading them to wear helmets. Mr Rifkind said: "Over 9,000 child cyclists are killed or injured every year. No parent should ever let their child ride a bicycle without first making certain that they are happy with the way in which their child handles the bike, signals and copes with traffic." Some children might be unwilling to wear helmets as their friends do not or because they felt self-conscious, he said. The campaign aimed to change that attitude. "Helmets are an essential part of cycling gear. It is smart to wear a helmet. As our campaign slogan says: Tough nuts are hard to crack — wear a helmet." The campaign will include a television commercial, a video for schools, and three million leaflets for distribution to parents and children.

Cost of hospital supplies in need of firm controls

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SOME health authorities are spending 150 per cent more on hospital supplies than others, according to a report from the National Audit Office published today.

Big savings could be made if much stronger controls were applied to the £4 billion a year spent on food, bedding and medical equipment, John Bourn, the comptroller and auditor general, says. Surgical gloves are one of the prime offenders, with doctors ordering several types at varying prices: the cheapest gloves ordered by Oxford regional health authority are, at 54p, more than double the price of the cheapest gloves bought by Wessex region, at 22p.

The report says that, in some hospitals, doctors and nurses use the most expensive surgical gloves for routine non-surgical work, for which other, less-expensive gloves could be used. The price of disposable hypodermic needles varies by 25 per cent between the same regions, while the cost of pencils and packets of cornflakes can differ by 60-70 per cent.

Distribution centres of supplies need to be centralised to save on storage and handling costs and to get access to discounts through bulk buying, the audit office says. At present, 5,000 supplies staff deal with more than 20,000 suppliers and 5,000 delivery points. Each of the 14 English regions is responsible for making its own arrangements for supplying users, guided by the health department's procurement directorate.

The report suggests that the NHS could save money by strengthening management of supplies, improving information technology and having more flexible use of storage and distribution facilities. The number of stores depots have already been cut from 400 in 1985 to 100 in 1991, but the report suggests those could be further reduced.

Trent region, for example, has only one store depot, while South West Thames has 17. The range of supplies purchased and the number of suppliers could also be cut, the report says.

However, it warns that under the health service reforms, regions may be moving away from centralisation. In addition, self-governing hospitals will now be responsible for their own supplies.

"The degree of local autonomy generally allowed in the national health service has slowed down the pace of central initiatives," the report says. "Further improvements need the continued support of the management executive coupled with much clearer regional and national oversight." The report calls for an action plan linked to timetables and targets for which local managers will be held personally accountable.

HOW NHS PRICES CAN DIFFER

	Price range Oxford	Wessex
Surgical glove (pair)	54p	22p
Cornflakes (500g box)	57p	65p
Identification bracelet (each)	6p	5p
Disposable nappy (box of 360)	£22.81	£21.40
Elastic bandage (roll)	£2.73	£2.88
Photocopying paper (ream)	£2.04	£1.74
Disposable hypodermic needle (10)	14p	12p

Source: NAO Questionnaire

Ex-fiancée 'threatened suicide over breakup'

A FARMER told a jury yesterday that his former fiancée, who is accused of killing his wife by shooting her in the back of the head, threatened to commit suicide when he broke off their engagement.

William Smith, aged 36, told Leeds crown court that Yvonne Sleightholme, who has gone blind since Jayne Smith was shot dead, also told him that she had leukaemia and that the stress of the breakup would kill her.

Mr Smith, of Salton, near Malton, North Yorkshire, described how in January 1987 he broke off a seven-year relationship with Miss Sleightholme just weeks before they were due to be married. By that time Mr Smith was having a relationship with Jayne Milford, a nurse he knew from school and whom he later married.

Stephen Williamson, QC, for the prosecution, has alleged that Sleightholme became filled with jealousy and hatred for Mrs Smith and shot her. Sleightholme, of Seamer, near Scarborough, North Yorkshire, pleads not guilty to murdering Mrs Smith on December 13, 1988.

Paul Worsley, QC, for Miss Sleightholme, later accused Mr Smith of hiring hitmen to kill his wife. He said that Mr Smith had started seeing and having sexual intercourse again with Miss Sleightholme just two months after the mariage.

He said: "I have to suggest to you that by the end of November 1988 you had decided to do away with your wife. I suggest that you were not prepared to bring about her death by pulling the trigger yourself but that you did possibly through men whom you had met through your drug involvement."

Mr Smith denied the claims. The trial continues today.

Ex-model sues over failed abortion

A FORMER model claimed damages in the High Court yesterday for alleged negligence over an abortion, which resulted in her giving birth to an unplanned child and her career coming to an end.

Dallas Bonell, aged 37, had a daughter after a failed termination operation at a London hospital in May 1984, the court was told. She is claiming medical negligence damages against her GP, the hospital consultant who carried out the operation and a health authority.

Miss Bonell, formerly of Notting Hill Gate, northwest London, who now lives with her daughter Cloe in Melbourne, Australia, had the operation because she did not want children, the court was told. John Watson, her counsel, told Mr Justice Farquharson that, after discovering she was still pregnant, Miss Bonell was told by Dr Ursula Lloyd, a consultant, that the only option was for a termination by induced labour. Her opinion was confirmed by Dr George Kaye, a GP.

She did not wish to have an abortion by this method, and gave birth to her daughter in January 1985. She claimed that the abortion failed because of medical negligence and that afterwards she was given negligent advice about the method of termination open to her.

She alleged that it was wrong to say at that stage of her pregnancy that she could only have an induced labour abortion. Negligence is denied by Dr Kaye, a GP at Lord North Street, Westminster, and at the Cromwell hospital, south-west London; Dr Lloyd, who carried out the operation at the now-closed South London hospital, and Wandsworth health authority.

Miss Bonell's damages claim includes compensation for the pain and suffering of the continued pregnancy and the birth, the cost of the upkeep of the child and loss of earnings. Giving evidence, she said that before Cloe's birth she was a professional model earning about £15,000-a-year after tax, but that she was unable to continue working after the birth. "I am still unable to do my work because I have a child."

Bonell: had earned about £15,000 a year after tax

The hearing continues today.

FOR HIM THE WAR WAS TERRIBLE

THE PEACE IS WORSE

For us in the West, the Gulf War is over. But for this child, and the people of the Gulf region, there is no end to the torment.

Millions, mainly Kurds, have been driven from their homes. Many face death from cold, starvation and disease as they attempt to escape to neighbouring countries like Iran and Turkey.

And it is not only the refugees who suffer. The war has left countless families without basic necessities. In Iraq 4½ million people don't even have clean water, so children are dying from diarrhoea.

The Red Cross has been in the Gulf region from the start of the crisis, providing medical aid and working to restore clean water supplies.

Now, as the crisis mounts, we are mobilising in a worldwide operation to save lives – including a massive airlift of food, medicines, tents and blankets for the refugees.

But we can only do it with your help. Right now, our urgent need is for money.

Please help us today. Send your donation to our Gulf Appeal. Post to: Red Cross Gulf Appeal, P.O. Box 121, London SW1X 7EW.

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____Postcode____Tel____

(Please make your cheques/PO payable to the Red Cross Gulf Appeal).

☎ 0898 234222 TELEPHONE OUR 24-HOUR DONATION LINE and quote your credit card number

OR, to give by credit card, write your card number here:
Mastercard/Access/Visa/Amex/Diners

Card No. ____

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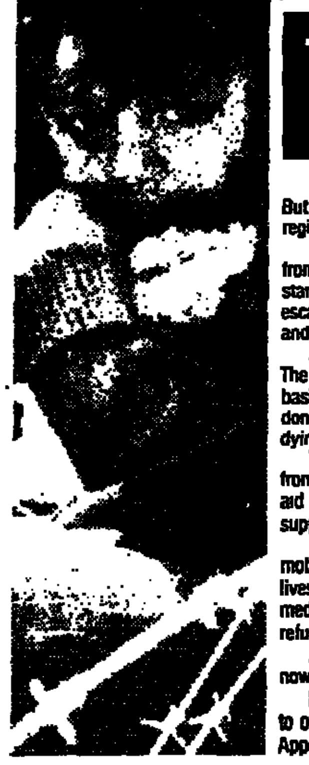
British Red Cross

Post to: Red Cross Gulf Appeal, P.O. Box 121, London SW1X 7EW.
You can also make a donation at any Bank or Post Office.
(Calls will be charged at 45p per minute peak, 34p per minute off-peak, and 21½p per minute will be rebated to the Appeal fund.)



Banned dons show pulling power at the bar

By TIM JONES

IF PHILOSOPHY is generally concerned with the study of ultimate reality, Plato, Socrates and Thales would have been happy yesterday at the Inn on the Lake in Swansea.

There, behind a door leading to the bar with its one-armed bandits and electronic games, they would have heard Colwyn Williamson lecturing on Gottfried Leibniz, one of whose works on human understanding is entitled New Essays.

Such understanding is a quality much craved by Mr Williamson and Michael Cohen, a fellow lecturer, who have been banned from University College, Swansea, for publicly questioning academic standards.

Like all academic tussles, the issues are intricate and morally complex. Scent of the dispute has permeated to every university in the land and battle has been joined by academics who between them have enough qualifications to fill a slim volume.

Essentially, the two men are in danger of losing their £22,000-a-year posts because they complained that Wales university was awarding MA degrees in philosophy and health care to students who had produced below-standard work. They claim no one who has studied the course has failed to graduate, including one student who apparently confused philosophy with plagiarism.

PHILIP REES

Serving up knowledge: Colwyn Williamson lecturing at a Swansea public house

Three of the five lecturers involved in the allegations have left the college. One, Anne Maclean, received a £53,000 payoff after signing a clause that banned her from ever again speaking about the dispute or university.

Mr Williamson, aged 53, said yesterday: "If we lose this battle over the right to voice our concerns over standards, no lecturer in the land is safe. To award degrees when they are not deserved destroys the whole basis for being a teacher." He and Mr Cohen were continuing to hold their lectures in the public house because they felt an obligation to their students.

One of their main allegations is that the examining board failed to apply proper academic standards. Fourteen professors of philosophy who have publicly supported the lecturers stated: "These proceedings look like a strategy of victimisation and cover-up." Professor Brian Clarkson, principal of the university college, has denied that the alleged compromising of standards was the result of pressure to recruit fee-paying students to boost college coffers.

The two lecturers yesterday celebrated one victory when an independent committee, chaired by Professor Kenneth Morgan, principal of University College, Aberystwyth, determined a thesis had been plagiarised. The committee told Wales university to make sure that examination safeguards were tightened.

Victor Carney, registrar at Swansea, said no comment could be made until the outcome of an independent enquiry conducted by Sir Peter Swinnerton-Dyer, who until recently was chief executive of the Universities Funding Council.

Some observers of the dispute are reminded of the adage: "Said Descartes, I extol myself, because I have a soul and beasts do not. Of course, he had to put Descartes before the horse." Only the enquiry will determine who will end up pushing or pulling.

Heseltine allocates homes to seven bands for new tax

By PHILIP WEBSTER
AND NICHOLAS WOOD

ALL 22.2 million homes in Britain will be allocated to one of seven bands according to their market value under the council tax unveiled by the government yesterday as its replacement for the community charge.

Households across England, Scotland and Wales will receive a bill based on the assumption that they contain two occupants. People living alone will receive discounts of 25 per cent. In a break with the principle of the poll tax, there will be no extra charge for third, fourth or subsequent occupants of a property.

Because only 2.75 million households contain three or more occupants, however, 90 per cent of all adults will be taken account of in household bills. The personal element in the new people and property tax is deemed by the government to be 50 per cent. The single person will pay half of that; thus the 25 per cent discount.

Heads of household will be responsible for paying the bill and, unlike the community charge, there will be no separate register. It will be up to the head of the household to decide how the bill will be shared if more than two adults live in a home.

After weeks of disclosures about the likely shape of the new tax, the greatest attention was last night focused on the way the banding system will operate, its impact on family budgets and comparisons with the liabilities people face this year under the community charge. The tax is expected to come into force in 1993.

The 38-page consultation document is far firmer in its recommendations than at one time seemed likely. It comes down firmly against basing the tax on rental values or the rebuilding costs of properties. Instead the government is opting for a variation of capital values in which properties would be put in one of seven bands according to their estimated open-market value.

Figures released by the government suggested that the bottom band will cover properties worth up to £40,000 and the top band will start with homes worth £160,000. These figures are based on the assumption that the average property in England today is worth £80,000. Under the approach favoured by the government the bottom band, or band A, would include properties worth up to 50 per cent of the average property value; band B would cover properties worth 50 to 65 per cent of this sum (£40,000 to £52,000); C 65 per cent to 85 per cent (£52,000 to £68,000); D 85 per cent to 110 per cent (£68,000 to £88,000); E 110 per cent to 150 per cent (£88,000 to £120,000); F 150 per cent to 200 per cent (£120,000 to £160,000) and G over 200 per cent (£160,000 or more).

In Wales and Scotland there will be a different banding system, reflecting their cheaper property prices. Band A in Wales will cover properties up to £30,000, B up to £39,000, C up to £51, 000, D up to £66,000, E up to £90,000, F up to £120,000 and G over £120,000. These figures are based on the estimated average property price in Wales of £60,000. In Scotland band A will cover properties worth up to £27,000; B up to £35,00; C up to £45,000; D up to £58,000; E up to £80,000; F up to £106,000 and G over £106,000. The average on which the figures are based is £53,000.

The banding system means that the amount of council tax payable will vary according to the value of the property but only within a limited range. People in the lowest band of property will pay about two thirds of those in a property in the middle band in that area; those in the highest band will pay about two thirds more than those in the middle band. Overall a household in the top band will pay about two and half times as much of one in the lowest band. The decision on which band a property should occupy will be supervised by the Inland Revenue's valuation office.

The document says that this will be a "substantial exercise". It adds: "It will be essential for it to be carried out quickly and with the assurance for householders that their property has been fairly assigned to the correct band."

According to Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, there will be no need for precise valuations of every house or flat, nor will there be a need for regular or frequent revaluations of properties under the banding system. Home improvements will not automatically mean a change of band; alterations might only be taken into account when the property changed hands.

Explaining why it rejected a return to rental values (ie, the rates) as the basis for valuation, the document identifies several disadvantages to such an approach. It says that differences in rents between the top and bottom of the market are wider than could be justified as the basis for the new tax. It also says that direct evidence of rental values for different types of properties is limited because the private rented sector is so small, only 2 to 3 per cent, of the housing stock.

A further drawback is that property owners and tenants might not readily accept the judgment of the valuation office and clog the system with appeals. Reverting to the existing rating register, now nearly 20 years old, would introduce "gross distortions" into the tax base and involve "severe inequity" for local taxpayers. A rating revaluation would be necessary.

Each year the government will announce for each band the amount of council tax necessary for a council to provide a reasonable level of service. In England it estimates that in the current year if councils spent in line with the Whitehall targets they would have to charge a household of two or more people living in a house worth more than £160,000 (the top band) no more than £668. If the household was in the lowest band the bill would be no more than £267.

In Scotland the charges for a two-person household would vary from £180 a year to £440 a year depending on its band; for a one-person home the range would be £130 to £330. In Wales the equivalent figures are between £109 and £272 for a two-person home and £81 and £204 for a one-person property.

The government intends that the council tax payable will relate to how much councils spend. If a council spends above the Whitehall target the burden will be shared equally across all seven bands of property.

This would prevent councils loading spending increases on the wealthier property owners.

Mr Heseltine said: "Where councils spend more all households will have to pay more. The same percentage increase will apply to all household bills. Similarly the benefit of low spending will be passed through to all council tax payers."

Second-home owners will receive two discounts on their second property, meaning that they will pay half the bill.

The rebate scheme for people on low incomes will be retained; the government does not envisage any substantial changes.

Leading article, page 18

How the council tax will affect the country, area by area

Figures under each band show total bill to be paid by two or more people living in a house. They assume that each council spends the same as this year, less a 40 per cent reduction in the cost of collecting the poll tax. One-adult households will pay 25% less than the amount shown

* 1991-92 community charge for two adults before reduction scheme or rebates

Council	1991-92 poll tax*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
INNER LONDON								
City of London	350	356	415	474	534	652	771	890
Camden	600	272	318	363	409	499	590	681
Greenwich	516	398	464	531	597	729	862	995
Hackney	644	284	331	379	426	520	615	710
H'mrsmth/Fulham	494	288	337	385	433	529	625	721
Islington	752	263	307	351	395	483	571	658
Kensington/Chelsea	379	208	243	277	312	381	451	520
Lambeth	901	334	389	445	501	612	723	834
Lewisham	336	270	315	361	406	496	586	676
Southwark	377	258	301	343	386	472	558	644
Tower Hamlets	294	220	257	294	331	404	477	551
Wandsworth	neg	90	105	120	135	164	194	224
Westminster	72	91	106	121	136	167	197	227
OUTER LONDON								
Barking & Dag'ham.	340	251	293	335	377	461	544	628
Barnet	494	247	288	329	370	453	535	617
Bexley	404	217	253	289	326	398	470	543
Brent	656	282	329	376	423	517	612	706
Bromley	380	183	213	244	274	335	396	457
Croydon	360	168	196	224	252	308	364	420
Ealing	510	262	306	350	393	481	568	656
Enfield	496	260	303	347	390	477	563	650
Haringey	840	414	482	551	620	758	896	1,034
Harrow	506	241	281	321	361	441	521	602
Havering	458	242	283	323	363	444	525	606
Hillingdon	430	235	274	313	353	431	509	588
Hounslow	570	270	315	360	405	495	585	675
Kingstn upon Thms	478	265	309	353	397	486	574	662
Merton	538	241	282	322	362	443	523	603
Newham	608	271	316	362	407	497	588	678
Redbridge	510	254	296	339	381	466	550	635
Richmnd upon Thms	558	261	305	348	392	479	566	653
Sutton	519	270	315	361	406	496	586	676
Waltham Forest	593	272	317	363	408	499	589	680
AVON								
Bath	489	273	318	364	409	500	591	682
Bristol	769	386	451	515	579	708	837	966
Kingswood	517	274	320	366	411	503	594	686
Northavon	534	296	345	395	444	543	641	740
Wansdyke	568	317	370	423	476	581	687	793
Woodspring	608	308	359	410	462	564	667	769
BEDFORDSHIRE								
Luton	500	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
Mid Bedfordshire	532	248	289	331	372	455	537	620
N Bedfordshire	527	262	305	349	393	480	567	654
S Bedfordshire	556	273	318	363	409	500	590	681
BERKSHIRE								
Bracknell Forest	458	245	286	326	367	449	530	612
Newbury	491	251	293	335	376	460	544	627
Reading	668	312	364	416	468	572	676	780
Slough	381	238	278	318	357	437	516	596
Windsor/Maidenh	294	270	315	360	405	495	585	675
Wokingham	527	282	329	376	423	517	611	705
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE								
Aylesbury Vale	417	231	269	308	346	423	500	577
Chiltern	502	261	304	347	391	478	565	652
Milton Keynes	631	316	368	421	474	579	684	790
S Bucks	442	239	279	319	359	439	518	598
Wycombe	536	264	308	352	396	484	572	660
CAMBRIDGESHIRE								
Cambridge	658	328	382	437	491	601	710	819
E Cambridgeshire	430	230	269	307	345	422	499	576
Fenland	464	254	296	338	381	465	550	634
Huntingdonshire	393	229	268	306	344	421	497	574
Peterborough	533	283	330	377	424	518	612	707
S Cambridgeshire	409	229	268	306	344	421	497	574
CHESHIRE								
Chester	619	329	384	439	494	604	714	824
Congleton	591	323	376	430	484	592	699	807
Crewe/Nantwich	625	347	405	463	520	636	752	867
Ellesmere Pt	619	348	406	464	522	638	754	869
Halton	650	342	399	456	513	628	742	856
Macclesfield	565	312	364	416	468	571	675	779
Vale Royal	584	325	379	433	487	595	704	812
Warrington	601	327	381	436	490	599	708	817
CLEVELAND								
Hartlepool	594	377	440	502	565	691	816	942
Langb'rgh-on-Tees	675	388	452	517	581	711	840	969
Middlesbrough	634	373	435	497	560	684	808	933
Stockton-on-Tees	601	331	387	442	497	608	718	829
CORNWALL								
Caradon	471	257	299	342	385	470	556	642
Carrick	501	277	323	369	415	507	600	692
Kerrier	495	272	317	363	408	498	589	680
N Cornwall	428	243	283	324	364	445	526	607
Penwith	450	256	298	341	383	469	554	639
Restormel	450	241	281	321	361	441	521	602
CUMBRIA								
Allerdale	423	336	392	448	504	616	728	840
Barrow-in-Furness	553	477	556	636	715	874	1,033	1,192
Carlisle	597	373	436	498	560	684	809	933
Copeland	456	400	467	533	600	733	867	1,000
Eden	435	333	388	444	499	610	721	832
S Lakeland	547	343	401	458	515	630	744	859
DERBYSHIRE								
Amber Valley	515	323	377	431	485	593	700	808
Bolsover	425	352	410	469	527	644	762	879
Chesterfield	529	351	409	468	526	643	760	877
Derby	540	297	346	396	445	544	643	742
Derbyshire Dales	554	311	363	415	467	570	674	778
Erewash	549	314	367	419	471	576	681	786
High Peak	522	331	387	442	497	608	718	828
N E Derbyshire	557	353	412	471	530	647	765	883
S Derbyshire	594	328	383	438	492	602	711	820
DEVON								
E Devon	486	266	310	354	398	487	575	664
Exeter	474	243	284	324	365	446	527	608
Mid Devon	509	280	327	373	420	514	607	700
N Devon	487	257	300	343	386	472	557	643
Plymouth	480	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
S Hams	480	268	313	357	402	491	581	670
Teignbridge	530	293	342	391	439	537	635	732
Torbay	480	253	295	337	379	463	548	632
Torridge	412	266	310	355	399	488	577	665
W Devon	460	270	315	360	405	495	585	675
DORSET								
Bournemouth	416	215	251	286	322	394	465	537
Christchurch	432	241	281	321	361	422	522	602
East Dorset	492	268	312	357	402	491	580	669
N Dorset	399	215	251	286	322	394	465	537
Poole	400	215	251	286	322	394	465	537
Purbeck	355	215	251	286	322	394	465	537
W Dorset	430	231	270	309	347	424	501	579
Weymouth/Portland	480	266	310	355	399	488	577	665
DURHAM								
Chester-le-Street	538	307	358	409	460	562	664	767
Darlington	551	301	351	401	451	551	651	752
Derwentside	553	435	508	580	653	798	943	1,088
Durham	558	316	369	421	474	579	685	790
Easington	430	347	404	462	520	635	751	866
Sedgefield	460	366	427	488	548	670	792	914
Teesdale	345	238	277	317	357	436	515	594
Wear Valley	433	369	430	492	553	676	799	922
EAST SUSSEX								
Brighton	511	262	306	349	393	481	568	655
Eastbourne	548	292	341	390	438	536	633	730
Hastings	548	264	309	353	397	485	573	661
Hove	394	216	252	288	324	395	467	539
Lewes	490	242	283	323	363	444	525	606
Rother	464	256	299	342	384	470	555	641
Wealden	493	274	320	366	412	503	595	686
ESSEX								
Basildon	710	361	421	481	542	662	782	903
Braintree	434	226	264	301	339	414	490	565
Brentwood	459	220	257	293	330	403	476	550
Castle Point	430	221	258	295	332	406	480	553
Chelmsford	456	247	288	330	371	453	536	618
Colchester	416	194	227	259	292	356	421	486
Epping Forest	497	237	276	315	355	434	513	592
Harlow	638	311	363	415	467	571	674	778
Maldon	406	209	243	278	313	383	452	522
Rochford	434	235	275	314	353	432	510	589
Southend-on-Sea	416	207	241	276	310	379	448	517
Tendring	411	220	257	294	331	404	478	551
Thurrock	536	264	308	352	396	484	572	660
Uttlesford	416	196	229	262	294	360	425	490
GLOUCESTERSHIRE								
Cheltenham	553	292	340	389	437	534	632	729
Cotswold	508	281	328	375	422	516	609	703
Forest of Dean	543	292	340	389	438	535	632	729
Gloucester	522	281	328	374	421	515	608	702
Stroud	610	322	376	430	483	591	698	806
Tewkesbury	491	254	297	339	381	466	551	636
HAMPSHIRE								
Basingstoke/Deane	374	181	211	241	271	332	392	452
E Hampshire	447	234	273	312	351	429	507	585
Eastleigh	490	266	310	354	398	487	576	664
Fareham	450	224	261	298	336	410	485	560
Gosport	492	261	304	348	391	478	565	652
Hart	451	224	261	298	336	410	485	560
Havant	459	233	272	311	350	428	506	584
New Forest	398	213	248	284	319	390	461	532
Portsmouth	358	181	211	241	271	332	392	452
Rushmoor	436	215	251	287	323	395	466	538
Southampton	510	215	251	287	323	395	466	538
Test Valley	361	187	218	249	280	342	404	466
Winchester	424	214	250	285	321	392	464	535
HEREFORD AND WORCESTER								
Bromsgrove	444	229	268	306	344	420	497	573
Hereford	422	216	252	288	324	396	469	541
Leominster	403	206	240	274	309	377	446	515
Malvern Hills	478	260	303	347	390	477	564	650
Redditch	523	279	326	372	419	512	605	698
S Herefordshire	373	204	238	272	305	373	441	509
Worcester	514	280	327	374	420	514	607	701
Wychavon	435	231	269	308	346	423	500	577
Wyre Forest	506	283	331	378	425	519	614	708
HERTFORDSHIRE								
Broxbourne	441	228	265	303	341	417	493	569
Dacorum	454	232	270	309	347	424	502	579
E Hertfordshire	458	244	284	325	365	447	528	609
Hertsmere	457	240	280	320	360	440	520	600
N Hertfordshire	458	242	282	322	363	443	524	604
St Albans	487	241	282	322	362	443	523	603
Stevenage	586	322	376	430	483	591	698	806
Three Rivers	551	286	333	381	428	524	619	714
Watford	588	324	378	432	486	594	702	810
Welwyn Hatfield	638	347	404	462	520	636	751	867
HUMBERSIDE								
Beverley	572	327	382	436	491	600	709	818
Boothferry	440	313	365	417	469	573	678	782
Cleethorpes	588	392	458	523	588	719	850	981
E Yorkshire	494	355	414	473	532	650	768	887
Glanford	508	297	347	396	446	545	644	743
Great Grimsby	582	402	469	536	603	737	871	1,005
Holderness	575	326	380	434	489	597	706	814
Kingston u Hull	460	352	411	469	528	645	763	880
Scunthorpe	536	347	404	462	520	635	751	866
ISLE OF WIGHT								
Medina	391	238	278	318	357	437	516	595
S Wight	476	259	302	345	388	474	560	646
KENT								
Ashford	352	170	198	226	255	311	368	424
Canterbury	388	191	223	255	287	351	415	478
Dartford	411	199	232	265	298	364	431	497
Dover	385	203	237	271	304	372	440	507
Gillingham	345	163	190	218	245	299	353	408
Gravesham	308	138	160	183	206	252	298	344
Maidstone	437	217	254	290	326	399	471	544
Rochester	102	138	160	183	206	252	298	344
Sevenoaks	382	179	209	238	268	328	388	447
Shepway	407	228	266	304	342	418	494	570
Swale	389	186	217	248	279	341	403	465
Thanet	349	171	199	227	256	313	369	426
Tonbridge/Malling	417	195	228	260	293	358	423	488
Tunbridge Wells	417	192	224	256	288	352	415	479
LANCASHIRE								
Blackburn	574	333	388	444	499	610	721	832
Blackpool	588	329	384	438	493	603	712	822
Burnley	418	314	366	419	471	576	680	785
Chorley	588	307	358	409	460	563	665	767
Fylde	537	299	349	399	449	549	648	748
Hyndburn	486	350	408	467	525	642	758	875
Lancaster	558	312	365	417	469	573	677	781
Pendle	436	344	402	459	516	631	746	861
Preston	628	309	360	412	463	566	669	772
Ribble Valley	547	295	344	393	442	540	638	737
Rossendale	521	365	426	487	548	670	791	913
S Ribble	573	313	365	417	470	574	678	783
West Lancashire	521	278	324	370	417	509	602	695
Wyre	519	288	336	383	431	527	623	719
LEICESTERSHIRE								
Blaby	456	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
Charnwood	514	250	291	333	374	457	541	624
Harborough	530	281	328	375	422	516	610	703
Hinckley/Bosworth	477	236	275	315	354	433	511	590
Leicester	638	315	367	420	472	577	682	787
Melton	501	263	306	350	394	482	569	657
N W Leicestershire	534	280	327	374	421	514	608	701
Oadby/Wigston	574	306	357	408	460	562	664	766
Rutland	508	266	310	354	399	487	576	664
LINCOLNSHIRE								
Boston	430	207	242	277	311	380	450	519
E Lindsey	435	211	246	282	317	387	458	528
Lincoln	448	216	252	289	325	397	469	541
N Kesteven	410	211	246	281	316	386	456	527
S Holland	434	220	256	293	330	403	476	550
S Kesteven	399	204	238	272	306	374	442	510
W Lindsey	420	210	245	280	315	384	454	524
NORFOLK								
Breckland	470	234	273	312	351	428	506	584
Broadland	457	237	277	317	356	435	514	593
Great Yarmouth	519	246	288	329	370	452	534	616
King's Lynn	408	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
N Norfolk	369	235	274	313	352	431	509	587
Norwich	586	321	375	428	482	589	696	803
S Norfolk	461	239	279	319	359	438	518	598
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE								
Corby	500	265	309	353	397	485	573	662
Daventry	498	260	303	346	390	476	563	649
E Northamptonshire	439	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
Kettering	459	239	278	318	358	438	517	597
Northampton	453	271	317	362	407	498	588	679
S Northamptonshire	453	246	287	328	369	451	533	615
Wellingborough	258	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
NORTHUMBERLAND								
Alnwick	514	329	384	439	494	604	714	824
Berwick-on-Tweed	441	329	384	439	494	604	714	824
Blyth Valley	600	403	470	537	604	739	873	1,007
Castle Morpeth	609	347	404	462	520	635	751	866
Tynedale	605	350	408	467	525	642	759	875
Wansbeck	510	432	504	576	648	792	936	1,081
NORTH YORKSHIRE								
Craven	343	205	239	273	307	375	443	511
Hambleton	381	185	216	247	278	340	402	463
Harrogate	508	262	306	350	393	481	568	656
Richmondshire	379	192	224	256	288	352	416	481
Ryedale	414	223	261	298	335	410	484	559
Scarborough	368	232	271	310	349	426	503	581
Selby	410	201	235	268	302	369	436	503
York	368	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
NOTTINGHAM								
Ashfield	491	300	350	400	450	551	651	751
Bassetlaw	593	303	353	404	454	555	656	757
Broxtowe	530	280	326	373	419	512	606	699
Gedling	533	283	331	378	425	520	614	708
Mansfield	590	350	409	467	526	642	759	876
Newark/Sherwood	546	291	340	388	437	534	631	728
Nottingham	590	282	329	376	423	517	611	704
Rushcliffe	530	291	339	388	436	533	630	727
OXFORDSHIRE								
Cherwell	498	278	324	370	417	509	602	694
Oxford	689	303	353	403	454	555	656	756
S Oxfordshire	618	316	369	422	474	580	685	790
V of White Horse	531	288	336	383	431	527	623	719
W Oxfordshire	481	278	324	370	417	509	602	694
SHROPSHIRE								
Bridgnorth	421	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
N Shropshire	453	240	280	320	360	440	520	600
Oswestry	527	278	325	371	417	510	603	696
Shrewsbry/Atcham	527	275	321	367	413	505	597	689
S Shropshire	464	257	300	342	385	471	556	642
The Wrekin	576	325	379	433	487	596	704	812
SOUTH YORKSHIRE								
Barnsley	365	335	391	446	502	614	725	837
Doncaster	401	300	350	400	450	550	651	751
Rotherham	465	341	397	454	511	625	738	852
Sheffield	435	299	348	398	448	548	647	747
SOMERSET								
Mendip	549	295	344	393	442	540	638	736
Sedgemoor	495	276	322	368	414	506	598	690
S Somerset	542	295	344	394	443	541	640	738
Taunton Deane	493	262	306	349	393	480	567	655
W Somerset	513	281	328	375	422	516	610	703
STAFFORDSHIRE								
Cannock Chase	539	315	368	421	473	578	683	789
E Staffordshire	488	254	296	338	380	465	549	634
Lichfield	472	241	281	322	362	442	523	603
Newcastle-u-Lyme	538	290	339	387	436	532	629	726
S Staffordshire	418	231	270	308	347	424	501	578
Stafford	473	251	293	335	377	460	544	628
Staffs Moorlands	475	258	301	344	387	473	560	646
Stoke-on-Trent	544	261	304	348	391	478	565	652
SUFFOLK								
Babergh	470	241	281	321	361	442	522	602
Forest Heath	434	230	268	306	345	421	498	574
Ipswich	648	351	410	468	527	644	761	878
Mid Suffolk	461	260	303	346	389	476	562	649
St Edmundbury	478	234	273	312	351	428	506	584
Suffik Coastal	461	236	275	315	354	433	511	590
Waveney	504	287	335	383	431	527	623	719
SURREY								
Elmbridge	677	344	401	458	516	630	745	860
Epsom/Ewell	654	324	378	432	485	593	701	809
Guildford	501	256	299	342	384	470	555	640
Mole Valley	510	271	317	362	407	497	588	678
Reigate/Banstead	542	267	312	356	401	490	579	668
Runnymede	396	231	269	308	346	423	500	577
Spelthorne	494	256	298	341	383	469	554	639
Surrey Heath	505	265	310	354	398	487	575	664
Tandridge	547	286	333	381	428	524	619	714
Waverley	512	259	303	346	389	475	562	648
Woking	519	258	301	343	386	472	558	644
TYNE AND WEAR								
Gateshead	454	298	348	397	447	546	646	745
Newcastle on Tyne	633	320	373	427	480	586	693	800
North Tyneside	569	302	352	402	453	553	654	754
South Tyneside	440	301	352	402	452	553	653	754
Sunderland	430	266	310	355	399	487	576	665
WARWICKSHIRE								
N Warwickshire	637	377	440	503	566	691	817	943
Nuneaton/B'dwth	672	380	444	507	570	697	824	951
Rugby	576	305	356	406	457	559	660	762
Stratford-on-Avon	549	301	351	401	452	552	652	753
Warwick	538	297	346	396	445	544	643	742
WEST MIDLANDS								
Birmingham	532	275	320	366	412	503	595	686
Coventry	588	324	378	432	486	595	703	811
Dudley	550	290	338	387	435	532	628	725
Sandwell	638	298	347	397	446	546	645	744
Solihull	512	271	316	362	407	497	588	678
Walsall	570	282	329	376	423	517	611	706
Wolverhampton	556	269	314	359	403	493	583	672
WEST SUSSEX								
Adur	532	280	327	373	420	513	607	700
Arun	440	240	280	320	361	441	521	601
Chichester	341	188	220	251	282	345	408	470
Crawley	470	253	295	337	379	464	548	632
Horsham	378	196	228	261	294	359	424	490
Mid Sussex	410	211	246	281	316	386	456	527
Worthing	390	208	243	278	312	382	451	520
WEST YORKSHIRE								
Bradford	446	239	278	318	358	437	517	597
Calderdale	355	352	411	469	528	645	763	880
Kirklees	479	351	410	468	527	644	761	878
Leeds	539	279	325	371	418	511	604	696
Wakefield	426	340	396	453	510	623	736	849
ALL PURPOSE AUTHORITY								
Isles of Scilly	210	175	204	233	263	321	379	438
GREATER MANCHESTER								
Bolton	532	264	309	353	397	485	573	661
Bury	592	301	362	402	452	552	653	753
Manchester	584	272	317	363	408	499	589	680
Oldham	538	277	323	369	415	507	599	692
Rochdale	498	317	370	422	475	581	686	792
Salford	600	318	371	423	476	582	688	794
Stockport	620	317	369	422	475	581	686	792
Tameside	540	310	361	413	464	567	671	774
Trafford	410	196	229	262	295	360	426	491
Wigan	535	339	396	452	509	622	735	848
MERSEYSIDE								
Knowsley	583	273	319	364	410	501	592	683
Liverpool	668	298	348	398	448	547	647	746
Sefton	567	285	332	380	427	522	617	712
St Helens	522	239	278	318	358	437	517	597
Wirral	672	342	399	456	513	627	741	855
SCOTLAND								
Berwickshire	270	140	160	180	200	260	290	340
Ettrick & Lauderdale	300	160	180	210	230	290	340	390
Roxburgh	290	140	170	190	210	260	310	360
Tweeddale	280	150	180	200	230	280	330	380
Clackmannan	550	330	390	450	500	610	720	830
Falkirk	420	230	270	310	350	430	500	580
Stirling	540	320	370	430	480	580	690	800
Annandle & Eskdle	340	200	230	260	300	360	430	490
Nithsdale	340	200	230	260	290	360	420	490
Stewartry	310	160	190	220	240	300	350	410
Wigtown	330	180	210	240	270	330	390	460
Dunfermline	490	300	350	400	450	550	650	750
Kirkcaldy	490	290	340	390	430	530	620	720
North-East Fife	510	290	340	390	440	540	640	740
Aberdeen City	450	240	280	320	350	430	510	590
Banff and Buchan	350	180	210	240	270	330	390	460
Gordon	320	170	200	230	250	310	360	420
Kincrdne & Deeside	280	150	170	200	220	270	320	360
Moray	300	160	180	210	240	290	340	390
B'dench & Srthspey	280	140	170	190	220	260	310	360
Caithness	270	140	160	180	210	250	300	340
Inverness	270	160	190	210	240	290	340	400
Lochaber	330	180	220	250	280	340	400	460
Nairn	280	160	190	210	240	290	340	400
Ross and Cromarty	330	180	210	240	270	330	390	450
Skye and Lochalsh	290	140	160	180	210	250	300	340
Sutherland	300	130	160	180	200	240	290	330
East Lothian	750	400	470	540	600	730	860	1000
Edinburgh City	840	420	490	560	630	760	900	1040
Midlothian	730	410	480	550	620	750	890	1030
West Lothian	690	400	470	540	600	740	870	1000
Argyll and Bute	480	230	270	310	340	420	490	570
Bearsdn & Mingavie	450	250	300	340	380	460	550	630
Clydebank	550	300	350	400	440	540	640	740
Clydesdale	480	270	320	370	410	500	590	690
Cumbernld & Kilsyth	420	250	300	340	380	460	540	630
Cumnck & Doon Vlly	430	250	290	330	370	460	540	620
Cunninghame	510	280	330	380	420	520	610	700
Dumbarton	580	320	380	430	480	590	690	800
East Kilbride	520	310	360	420	470	570	670	780
Eastwood	380	220	260	300	330	400	480	550
Glasgow City	530	270	310	360	400	490	580	670
Hamilton	500	280	330	380	420	520	610	700
Inverclyde	460	250	300	340	380	460	550	630
K'mrnck & Ldoun	450	250	290	330	370	460	540	620
Kyle and Carrick	530	300	350	400	450	550	650	750
Monklands	500	310	360	410	460	560	670	770
Motherwell	450	260	310	350	390	480	570	660
Renfrew	520	290	340	390	430	530	620	720
Strathkelvin	500	290	340	390	440	540	630	730
Angus	440	240	280	320	350	430	510	590
Dundee City	540	270	310	360	400	490	570	660
Perth and Kinross	450	240	280	320	360	440	520	600
WALES								
Alyn and Deeside	236	161	188	215	242	296	350	404
Colwyn	255	161	188	214	241	295	349	402
Delyn	246	152	177	202	228	278	329	379
Glyndwr	193	96	112	128	143	175	207	239
Rhuddlan	278	158	185	211	237	290	343	396
Wrexham Maelor	201	103	120	138	155	189	224	258
Carmarthen	136	69	80	91	103	126	149	171
Ceredigion	146	80	94	107	120	147	174	201
Dinefwr	125	65	76	87	98	119	141	1632
Llanelli	179	114	133	152	171	209	247	286
Preseli Pembroke	140	75	88	101	113	138	163	189
South Pembroke	145	78	91	104	117	143	169	195
Blaenau Gwent	133	73	85	98	110	134	158	163
Islwyn	160	93	108	124	139	170	201	232
Monmouth	215	120	140	160	180	220	260	300
Newport	241	131	153	174	196	240	283	327
Torfaen	209	119	139	159	179	218	258	298
Aberconwy	225	133	155	177	200	244	288	333
Arfon	158	101	118	134	151	185	218	252
Dwyfor	181	125	146	167	187	229	271	312
Meirionnydd	203	147	171	196	220	269	318	367
Ynys Mon	216	150	174	199	224	274	324	374
Cynon Valley	99	60	70	79	89	109	129	149
Merthyr Tydfil	142	99	115	132	148	181	21	247
Ogwr	140	74	87	99	112	136	161	186
Rhondda	62	38	44	50	57	69	82	94
Rhymney Valley	188	119	139	158	178	218	257	297
Taff Ely	193	105	123	140	158	193	228	263
Brecknock	173	89	104	118	133	163	192	222
Montgomeryshire	153	92	107	123	138	169	199	230
Radnorshire	173	90	105	120	136	166	196	226
Cardiff	223	125	146	167	188	230	272	313
Vale Of Glamorgan	218	126	147	168	189	231	273	315
Lliw Valley	149	75	88	100	113	138	163	188
Neath	129	92	108	123	138	169	200	230
Port Talbot	152	96	112	128	144	176	208	240
Swansea	226	119	138	158	178	217	257	296

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All-purpose authorities will replace two tiers

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE most wide-ranging reform of local government for almost two decades was signalled yesterday by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary.

A consultation paper on the future of local government in England proposes sweeping away the existing two tiers of county and district councils and creating a single tier of all-purpose councils.

The document says the first new council should come into existence on April 1, 1994, and indicates that artificial creations like Avon, Cleveland and Humberside will be among the first to be abolished. The changes will not affect London or the metropolitan areas of England. In Wales and Scotland separate consultation papers on restructuring will be issued within the next two months.

Heseltine speaking in the Commons yesterday

In England the government proposes the creation of a new Local Government Commission to oversee the transition. It would have a duty to consult local people about the changes. Ministers have, however, abandoned plans to hold local referendums on the future shape of the new councils.

The document makes it clear that there will be no wholesale abolition of either district or county councils and that in some areas both tiers will survive the changes.

The new commission, which will replace the boundary commission, will work its way around the country tackling several areas simultaneously.

In some areas the existing district councils will become the new all purpose authorities running everything from schools to refuse collection. In some others counties will assume all the functions of the districts. Mergers between existing districts may be sanctioned although the commission will have the power to recommend the creation of wholly new local government areas.

"The government feel it right to begin the process of change towards unitary authorities to achieve more efficient and more accountable local government that will also reflect local people's own sense of identity with the community in which they live," the document says.

The report says that some of the local authorities created in 1974 at the time of the last major reorganisation of local government "are still not wholly accepted by all the local communities which they serve." The document says that in other areas local people are often unaware of which tier of local government is responsible for expenditure and this confusion clouds accountability.

"Changing the structure of local government will not in itself solve all the problems. But in the main it is desirable that people can identify one authority which secures services in their area," it says.

With more services being contracted out to the private sector as councils become monitors of standards rather than providers of services, there was no longer any need for councils to be big enough to provide services themselves.

In areas where counties were retained as the single tier or larger districts emerged, parish councils could be given a bigger role as representatives of local communities.

The government's proposals were welcomed by Roy Thomason, chairman of the Conservative controlled Association of District Councils who said that he could have written many of them himself.

The Tory controlled Association County Councils said it would pursue its campaign for counties to become the new unitary authorities. Many districts fell into the category of artificial creations of the 1974 changes, it said.

Sigh of relief in shaken bastion

Douglas Broom finds out the reaction in one council that hated the poll tax

THE death of the poll tax was being celebrated last night by Conservatives in the Berkshire Tory borough which set one of the highest poll taxes in Britain last year.

The ruling Conservative group on Windsor and Maidenhead council has been campaigning against the community charge since its introduction shattered the peace and led to the council being accused of profligacy.

Tories in this corner of the South-East are still traumatised by the experience of going at a stroke from having the lowest rates in the county to levying its highest poll tax.

For them, the community charge was the catalyst that turned life-long Conservative voters into anti-poll tax activists and led to the worst outbreak of political violence the borough had known. Five hundred demonstrators stormed the council headquarters and fought with police in a tree-lined street in Maidenhead last March, halting a council meeting called to set a poll tax of £449.

What hurt loyal Conservatives most was that the council had a record of careful financial management. Rates had not been increased in the 12 years leading up to the introduction of the poll tax. Overnight, changes in the new system used to distribute government grant to councils turned the borough into one of the most expensive places to live outside London.

Although this year's poll tax is £287 (£427 before the Ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer's £140 reduction) it is still £96 a head higher than neighbouring Labour-controlled Slough. Yesterday's announcement was greeted with relief by Bill Cooley, the leader of the council, who farms near Eton College on the banks of the Thames and who has been a Tory councillor for 25 years. "We are glad to see the back of it. It should have been done before now," he said.

All 58 seats on the council come up for re-election on May 2 and the Tories are defending 42 of them. Mr Cooley said the poll tax had seriously harmed his party's prospects. "No one is counting their chickens this time," he said. "We should win but the community charge has done us no good at all."

Olive Dancer is one of those who will not be voting Conservative because of the poll tax. A life-long Tory voter, she joined the Maidenhead anti-poll tax group last year. "For so many people here, the poll tax was the last straw. We came to see that we were being governed by what, after 12 years in power, had become a virtual dictatorship.

"The strength of feeling is very strong. The unfairness of the poll tax and the fact that it could be railroaded through just incensed people who had voted Tory all their lives. I think the Tories will be kicked out of the council here and in the general election."

The new council tax may benefit fewer people in Windsor and Maidenhead than the government might like. According to the consultation paper issued yesterday, 19 per cent of homes in the borough come into the top tax bracket.

Heseltine move may mean death of hated authorities

By RAY CLANCY

MICHAEL Heseltine, the environment secretary, last night paved the way for the biggest restructuring of local government for almost two decades: a move that is expected to result in the demise of some of the most hated artificially created authorities such as Humberside, Cleveland and Avon.

The Boundary Commission for England has already proposed the abolition of Humberside, which has always been disliked by people living in the county since it was created in 1974. People in Humberside still talk of living in the East Riding of Yorkshire, those in Avon say they are rightly in Somerset, and in Cleveland they talk about being a mismatch of North Yorkshire and Durham.

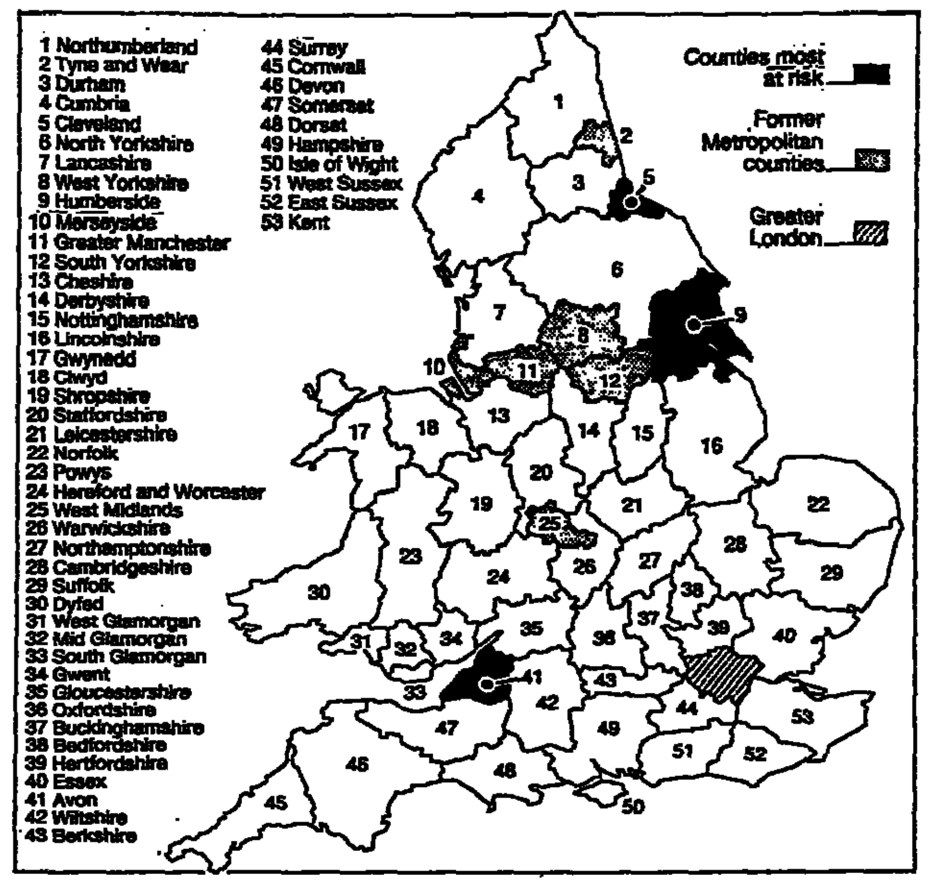
This local feeling is just one of the issues the newly appointed local government commission will have to address. It had been thought that local referendums would be carried out, but last week Robert Key, junior environment minister, ruled out that option, although nobody has yet indicated how feelings will be monitored.

Mr Heseltine has long been a supporter of single-tier local government. He will, however, be anxious to avoid the scrappiness and argument that have characterised previous local government reforms and to steer away from the hotchpotch system that existed before 1974. His plans have already sent a shudder through those involved in previous reorganisations. Experts fear that the disruption and cost of change might outweigh the benefits.

The foundations of local government in England and Wales were laid by the creation of counties in 1888 and districts in 1894. Apart from the grant of charters to boroughs, there were few changes before 1965. Until then, there was a multi-tier system with 48 county councils and 79 county boroughs in England.

The London area was divided between Middlesex and London County Council, below which there were 28 metropolitan boroughs and the City of London. Outside the capital, there were 285 municipal boroughs, 491 urban districts and 415 rural districts. Wales had a further 12 counties, four county boroughs, 73 urban districts and 59 rural districts.

It was widely regarded as a mess. The first step towards reform came in 1965, when changes were introduced in London. The Greater London Council was created, with 32 boroughs. The GLC took over the areas of the county council and Middlesex, plus parts of Hertfordshire, Kent and Essex. The City remained the same.



Lord Redcliffe-Maud, whose commission of enquiry was set up in 1966 to review the structure of local government in England and prompted the 1974 reforms, described the system as a hotchpotch. The enquiry proposed the creation of 58 unitary authorities, three metropolitan areas and 20 metropolitan districts. That was rejected, but the new structure that emerged in the 1972 Local Government Act kept the idea of metropolitan counties and districts. From 1974, England was covered by 39 county councils, 296 district councils, six metropolitan councils and the GLC.

Three new administrative areas were created in Cleveland, Humberside and Avon, which immediately provoked criticism because they were not based on the historic shires. Several small counties were amalgamated with their neighbours and there was a wholesale amalgamation of districts.

However, the metropolitan counties created in 1974 had comparatively few functions. Education and social services, the big spenders, were given to the districts. Many came to believe that the metropolitan counties had too little to do. They were seen as extravagant, irritating and irrelevant nests of radical socialism and were abolished with the GLC in 1986.

Tyne and Wear, Merseyside, West Midlands, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and the GLC ceased to exist, with their functions taken over by the metropolitan districts outside London and the borough councils in London, effectively creating single-tier local government in those areas. It prompted a furore. Local government in London is still haunted by the demise of the GLC, with frequent calls for its return.

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Gould dismisses offspring of poll tax and political panic

New tax 'still favours rich'

By OUR PARLIAMENTARY STAFF

GOVERNMENT plans to introduce a council tax were dismissed by the Labour party yesterday for including many of the "hated" features of the community charge. Bryan Gould, shadow environment secretary, told MPs that the untried tax still bore no relationship to ability to pay and favoured the rich. It was *the offspring of a "disreputable union between the* poll tax and political panic".

He said that the government had failed to learn the lessons of the poll tax by scrapping it immediately. He said, however, that Labour *was ready to accept* the government's offer of consultation on the structure of local government.

Mr Gould said that it was remarkable that the country had still not had a single word of apology for the billions of pounds that had been wasted and the misery caused to millions of people. "The secretary of state's statement is an admission that a disastrous mistake has been made."

The party that brought the country the head tax had now produced a "stand-on-your-head tax". "*But whether heads* or tails, the people will be the losers."

The government appeared to be offering genuine consultation in contrast to the gimmickry of the poll tax replacement. "Provided we are satisfied there will be no gerrymandering, appointments to the commission will be free from *political bias* and no attempts will be made to undermine local government, we intend to make a positive response to the government's proposals", Mr Gould said.

The lessons of the poll tax had not been learnt. The government was not so much flying the poll tax nest as concealing the product of a disreputable union between the poll tax and political panic, a mongrel tax that inherited the worst features of both parents.

The public would want to know whether the Heseltine proposals were as fast, fair and simple as the fair rates scheme put forward by Labour. Every opinion poll showed the Labour formula twice as popular as any other scheme. The Heseltine plan was a guarantee that with a Tory government in power the poll tax would stay until at least 1993.

"Why should people have to put up with all the unfairness and unworkability of the poll tax and a local tax which, according to the Chartered *Institute of Public Finance* and Accountancy, is £140 higher than it need be for at least two or three years?"

The new tax should not have been constructed so that the rich were protected from paying their fair share. "Do they not realise that every pound the rich do not pay will be added to someone else's *bill, the bills* of precisely the same people who are especially hard hit by the poll tax? Why is it that the element of the head tax which remains and which accounts for half the total bill still bears no relationship to ability to pay?"

Lawson: praised common sense of the government

Why should a single millionaire receive a 25 per cent discount while families and *pensioner couples struggled* on low incomes "to pay the whole whack"? "And what about the 'John Major problem', the person who registers at one address, but lives in another and perhaps higher valued property?"

He reminded MPs that Chris Patten, Conservative party chairman, had described *similar schemes to the one* now being put forward as a "rottweiler's breakfast". Mr Major had said in the past that the more the government considered the idea of single person discount the more it was convinced that the dis*count helped significantly* the better off.

Alan Beith, Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, said that the government had produced not the "son of poll tax" but the "son of rates", preserving many of the faults of the *rating system* and not being based on ability to pay. A relatively low-earning couple would pay the same as the four-earner family next door. Why had Michael Heseltine tilted the scheme to ensure that the very rich paid very little more than those on low incomes?

John Fraser (Norwood, Lab) said that there would be vast variations between areas because of the multiplier effect that would mean that 1 per cent on the council's spending would mean 6 per cent on tax.

Nigel Lawson, *former* chancellor, said: "There will be widespread relief that the government has had the courage and common sense to consign poll tax to oblivion and has come to a firm decision on the nature of its replacement".

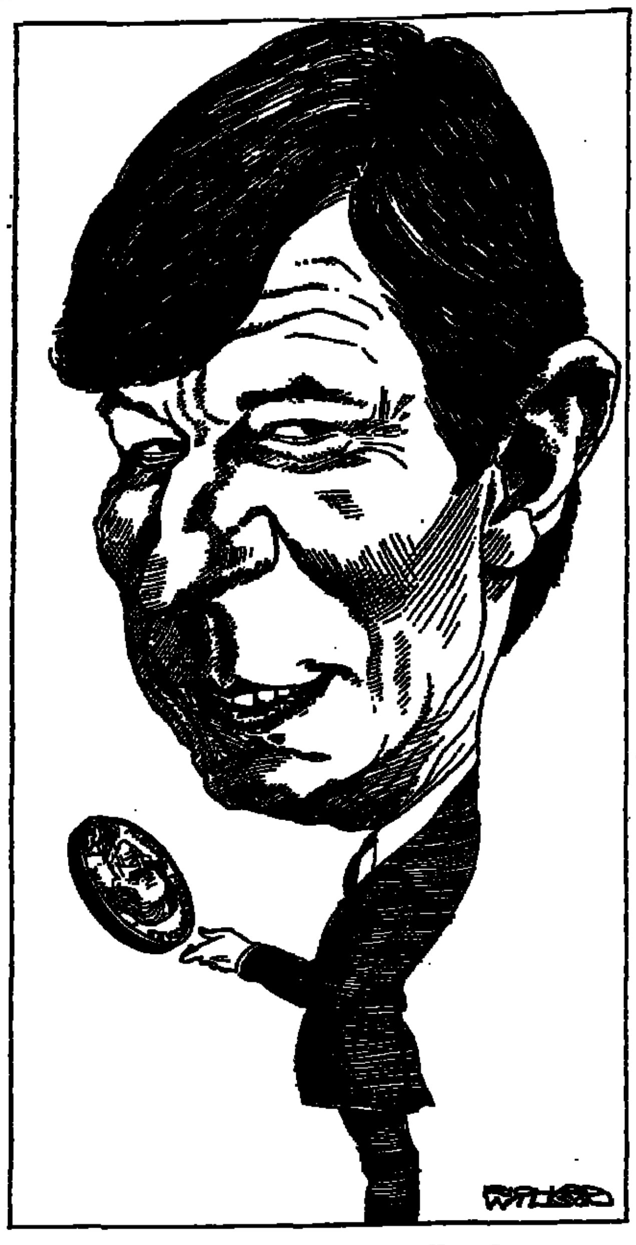
David Nellist (Coventry South East, Lab) and several other Labour MPs said that Mr Heseltine should have introduced a bill at once to abolish poll tax.

John Cartwright (Woolwich, Ind SD) said banding involved an element of rough justice. Mr Heseltine replied *that the difference* between bands would mean that most people would not take advantage of appeals procedure against banding.

Martin Brandon-Bravo (Nottingham South, C) got an assurance that adding central heating or double glazing to a home would not mean its moving from one band to another.

David Blunkett, Labour local government spokesman, asked about the chip-shop factor that would mean that a house between a disco and a chip shop would be in the same band as a similar one overlooking the park. Labour's proposals would mean a charge of £333 for an average two-person household which under the Conservative scheme would be £400. Mr Heseltine said that the appeals procedure would take care of the chip shop factor.

Leading article, page 19



Gould: ministers failed to learn poll tax lessons

Major avoids Owen poser

John Major sidestepped a Commons question yesterday about giving a government job to Dr David Owen, leader of the former SDP. Martyn Jones, Labour MP for Clwyd South West, sought assurance that Mr Major, despite his desperate need to improve his electoral chances, was not extending his policy on safe havens to other small minorities such as Dr Owen.

Mr Major replied to laughter: "I am at the moment fully occupied in dealing with safe havens in Iraq".

Car security talks planned

Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, is to have talks on car security next week with the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and the Association of British Insurers, Earl Ferrers, minister of state, said in a Lords written reply. The next week Mr Baker is to have talks with manufacturing companies. The government is seeking to reduce theft of and from cars.

School policy defended

Kenneth Clarke, education secretary, rejected as "over the top" criticism of grant maintained schools by the Roman Catholic church. He said during Commons questions that some "pretty silly things" had been said during local campaigning on whether a school should become grant maintained. The policy was a huge success where adopted and an enlightened reform.

Appeal to British Coal

The Commons Welsh affairs committee called on British Coal to provide decent new houses for villagers in Wales forced from their homes by opencast mining. The £500,000 spent annually by British Coal on local benefits was too little when the company's annual profit in south Wales was £20 million, the committee's report said.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Atomic Weapons Establishment bill, remaining stages.

Lords (2.30): Debates on unemployment and on sport and active recreation.

Nato 'has to stay as it is'

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

TOM King, the defence secretary, rejected yesterday the idea that Czechoslovakia, Hungary and other eastern European nations might become members of Nato.

He told the "Future of Europe" conference of the British Atlantic Group of Young Politicians in London: "I do not think that is a sensible proposition at this time. Nato should be maintained as it is." The priorities for countries "emerging from communism" should be the development of economic ties with Western Europe.

Mr King said that Nato should remain as the main component of European security, adding that the essential elements included the continued stationing of American troops in Europe, the development of the "European pillar", with greater contributions to the alliance from important European nations, and a unified command structure.

On the Conventional Forces in Europe agreement, the defence secretary complained of the Soviet transfer of troops and equipment to its navy to evade the treaty stipulations.

At the same conference, *Martin O'Neill, Labour's de*fence spokesman, said that it was debauched Atlanticism for America always to take the lead in Nato and that European efforts must be built up.

Kinnock fights for the family vote

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

MARRIED couples with two children on average earnings of £15,000 a year will not face higher taxes if Labour wins power at the next election, its leaders promised yesterday as they sought to wrest from the Conservatives the mantle of the party of the family.

Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, *intensified his efforts* to rid his party of its high-tax image by promising that the overwhelming majority of people would not pay higher taxes under his premiership.

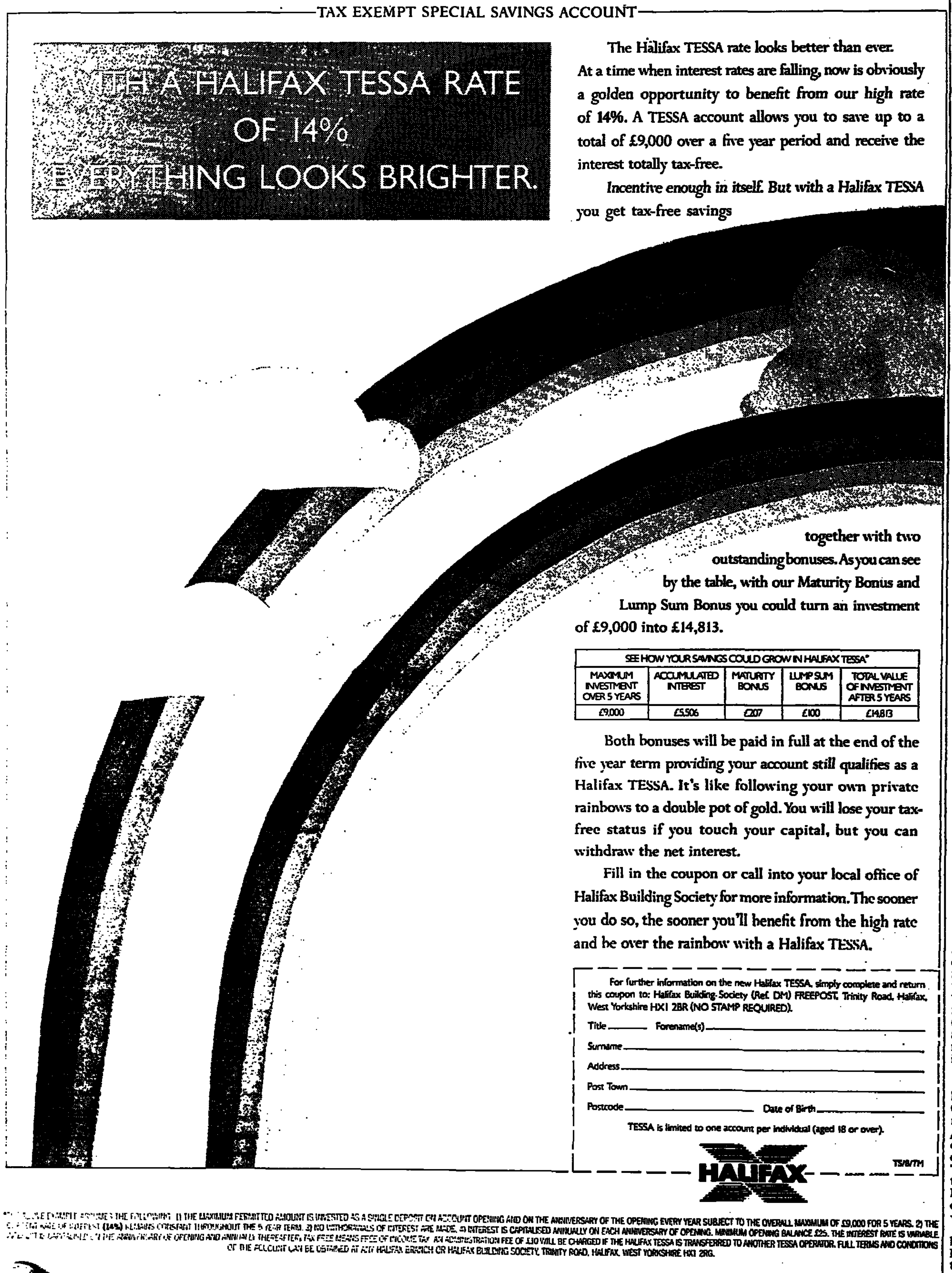
His pledge was supported by Margaret Beckett, the *shadow chief* secretary, who earlier had highlighted the increase in the tax burden under the Tories. She said that the burden of direct and indirect taxes on a married couple with two children on average earnings had risen from 35.2 per cent of income in 1978-9 to 36.6 per cent in 1989-90.

The comments came at the launch in London of an Opposition campaign document, *Labour, Family Prosperity*, which showed how ordinary families living in the capital had suffered under Tory rule and which promised that Labour would bring higher benefits and better education, training, social services and child care.

Despite those hints of higher spending, the Labour leaders did not go beyond their present commitments to restore the value of child benefit to its 1987 level — £9.55 at current rates — and to increase pensions for single people by £5 a week and for couples by £8 a week. They said *that the total bill* of about £3.25 billion would be met by higher taxes on the better off and by removing the ceiling on national insurance contributions.

Meacher: announced a child benefit concession

Michael Meacher, Labour's social security spokesman, did announce a concession on child benefit, however. Labour would ensure that families living on means-tested benefits did not miss future child benefit increases through corresponding reductions in their *income support payments*. That brought the Opposition into line with changes announced by the government in the Budget which take effect in October.



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Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, is to have talks on car security next week with the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and the Association of British Insurers, Earl Ferrers, minister of state, said in a Lords written reply. The next week Mr Baker is to have talks with manufacturing companies. The government is seeking to reduce theft of and from cars.

School policy defended

Kenneth Clarke, education secretary, rejected as "over the top" criticism of grant maintained schools by the Roman Catholic church. He said during Commons questions that some "pretty silly things" had been said during local campaigning on whether a school should become grant maintained. The policy was a huge success where adopted and an enlightened reform.

Appeal to British Coal

The Commons Welsh affairs committee called on British Coal to provide decent new houses for villagers in Wales forced from their homes by opencast mining. The [illegible] spent annually by British Coal on local benefit was too little when the company's annual [illegible] from south Wales was [illegible] million, the committee's report said.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office. [illegible] Weapons Establishment Bill, remaining stages.

Lords (2.30): Debates on [illegible]

ck fights for family vote

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Baker cuts delays for drink-drive hearings

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MOST people accused of drink-driving will appear in court within three weeks of being arrested under a new agreement reached between police, prosecutors and magistrates, it emerged yesterday.

Under the agreement, police will be obliged to charge drivers who fail an evidential breath test immediately and, in most cases, to bail them to appear at court seven days later. In more complicated cases, the deadline for the first court appearance will be three weeks from the date of arrest.

While some progress has been made over the past 18 months to reduce prosecution delays in drink-driving cases, it can still take up to four months for alleged offenders to be tried. Most of the delays stem from the time it takes for summonses to be issued and for blood and urine samples to be processed by forensic scientists.

Announcing the new arrangements, Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, said: "These procedures should ensure that most cases take no longer than 21 days from offence to the defendant's first court appearance at which, we anticipate, a substantial number of cases will be completed. Where an evidential breath test is in excess of the legal limit and there is no subsequent blood or urine test, the person should be charged immediately."

Defendants with a record of drink-driving offences would be expected to be brought before magistrates "within days" so that courts could consider imposing a driving ban during the bail period. The new procedures would be reviewed in 12 months' time.

Lawyers welcomed the move on the basis that quicker justice meant better justice. Diane Burleigh, legal adviser to the Law Society, said: "In most areas police do charge on the spot if a driver has decisively failed an intoximeter test. But serious delays can and do occur in more complicated cases."

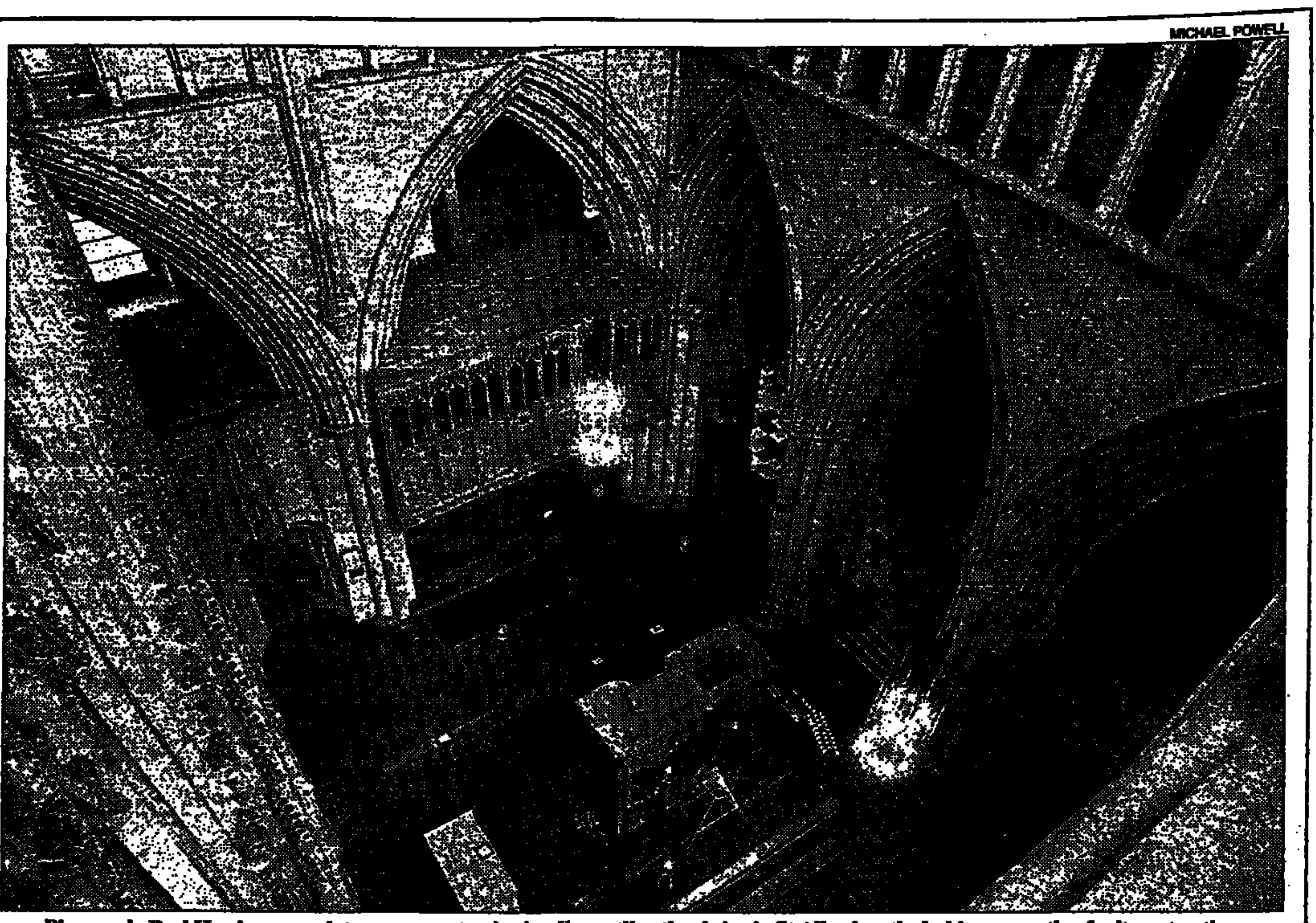
She said it could take over a month for the results of blood or urine samples to come back from forensic laboratories and sometimes another three months for summonses to be issued by court officials.

Alcohol Concern welcomed the agreement, saying that it would increase public safety and increase the deterrent impact of the drink-driving laws. A spokesman said: "If the prosecution process is accelerated there is less chance of drink-drivers committing another offence while they are on bail. Reducing court delays also increases the deterrent effect of stiff penalties for drink-driving".

The charity said dramatic improvements had been made over the past two years in speeding up the prosecution of drink-drivers, but that further progress was needed. "All we need now is for the government to do what the public has been pressing it to do for ages and introduce random breath-testing," the spokesman added.

Some of the delays are known to be caused by offenders who deliberately invent excuses for not appearing in court in order to keep their licences for longer.

MICHAEL POWELL



Piece work: Paul Harrison, a sculpture conservator, begins dismantling the shrine in St Alban's cathedral in preparation for its restoration

Restorers embark on task of saintly patience

John Young reports on the restoration of England's oldest Christian shrine, that of St Alban the Martyr

WORK began this week on the dismantling and restoration of England's oldest and greatest Christian shrine, that of St Alban the Martyr, which stands in the heart of the cathedral that bears his name.

Alban was executed by the Romans in about 304 and when the emperor Constantine embraced Christianity a church was built as a gesture of atonement over the spot where he was buried. The church became a place of pilgrimage and prayer, and the Venerable Bede commented on the succession of miracles associated with it.

In 793 the Saxon king Offa of Mercia founded a Benedictine monastery on the site and in 1077 Paul de Caen, the first Norman abbot, began the building of what was to become the premier abbey of medieval England, using Roman bricks from the ruined city of Verulamium.

The saint's bones were exhumed and placed in a chest encrusted with gold, silver and precious stones on top of the shrine, which was constructed of Purbeck stone and faced with carved and painted marble. There it was guarded night and day by monks until the dissolution of the monasteries.

In December 1539, Henry VIII's vandals broke into the abbey, seized the treasure and scattered Alban's bones, which have never been found, and destroyed the shrine. In 1872, hundreds of fragments were rediscovered and pieced together. Substantial parts were missing, however, and Victorian techniques and materials have failed the test of time. Although still beautiful, it has a forlorn appearance and is threatened with collapse.

Over the next few months it will be taken apart and rebuilt by Harrison Hill, a firm of stone restorers, of Little Oakley, Northamptonshire. Each fragment will be cleaned and repaired, preserving, as much as possible of the original paintwork.

The work will be facilitated by a photogrammetric survey of the details of the shrine's construction, the results of which have been recorded on computer at the City university. Some fragments discovered since 1872 will be placed in position and missing pieces will be replaced by light modern materials identical in appearance to the carved marble.

Temporary removal of the shrine will allow the site to be excavated under the supervision of Professor Martin Biddle, archaeological consultant to the cathedral. "We've no idea what we may find," he said, "but it will be a very exciting exercise."

The £150,000 for the work has been raised in three months by an appeal co-ordinated by Sir Eric Cheadle, former deputy managing director of the International Thomson Organisation. A substantial donation has been received from Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, among others. The Very Rev Peter Moore, Dean of St Alban's, in Hertfordshire, said yesterday that the appeal had been enthusiastically supported by Roman Catholics who hold a weekly mass in the Lady Chapel.

Barring unforeseen difficulties, the shrine will be restored in time for the celebration in 1993 of the 1,200th anniversary of Offa's foundation, a fitting tribute to England's first saint and martyr.

Shrine needed for St Andrew's devotees

By KERRY GILL

THE Roman Catholic Church hopes to establish a national shrine to St Andrew, patron saint of Scotland, to increase veneration of the saint and stop the increasing secularisation that his cross has suffered since the Reformation.

The shrine would be based in St Mary's cathedral, Edinburgh, where his relics are displayed at St Andrew's altar, a place of pilgrimage. Mgr Patrick Grady, administrator of the cathedral, said a national shrine would help a revival of devotion to the saint and could be ecumenically valuable.

A formal request has been made to the Scottish Catholic bishops for a national shrine and nation-wide consultations are to be sought with the Catholic community. When Mgr Gordon Gray was made a cardinal in 1969, the late Pope Paul VI gave him what is thought to be a piece of St Andrew's skull. This and the shoulder blade are at St Mary's cathedral.

When Pope John Paul II visited Scotland in 1982, he prayed with Cardinal Gray at the altar to St Andrew. Mgr Grady said: "Subsequently, the relics of St Andrew have been the object of increasing veneration."

Publicity on student prompts response

Police investigating the disappearance of Rachel McLean, an Oxford student, have received 14 reports of a person matching her description since her picture was published yesterday.

Miss Maclean, aged 19, vanished 10 days ago after seeing her boy friend on to a train at Oxford station. She left with a man who seemed to be an acquaintance who had offered her a lift. Yesterday Rachel's mother, Mrs Joan McLean, appealed to the man to contact the police.

Rating dismissed

Philip Jesson, aged 17, a rating who put sailors' lives at risk by setting fire to a chair and carpet in the accommodation block of a Portsmouth naval base, was yesterday dismissed the navy and sentenced to 12 months at a youth detention centre.

Pilot for trial

A pilot accused of the manslaughter of two passengers was sent for crown court trial by magistrates at Uttoxeter, Staffordshire. John Wright, aged 42, of Clehonger, Hereford and Worcester, was piloting a helicopter owned by the manufacturers JCB when it crashed near the firm's headquarters at Rocester, Staffordshire, last June.

Tamils accuse

Five Sri Lankan Tamils who were expelled from Britain in 1988 yesterday at the European Court of Human Rights accused the government of violating their human rights. They claimed their genuine fears of exposure to serious risk of persecution in Sri Lanka were ignored.

Fine for fake

Gerald Brady, of Ovenden, Halifax, West Yorkshire, whose faked pictures of drug-taking in prisons made a front page report in the *Daily Mirror* was fined £1,000 yesterday for making a false declaration.

Drug cases delay

Six drugs charges against Lieutenant Brian Cooper, of 47 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, were adjourned until early June for procedural reasons by a court martial at Bulford, Wiltshire, yesterday.

New polytechnic

Anglia higher education college, split between Cambridge and Chelmsford, was named yesterday as the thirty-second polytechnic in England and Wales. It is the third new polytechnic to be designated in two years.

Obligatory jollity the price of BA's free flight

From JOE JOSEPH IN MILAN

YOU could tell what sort of a day British Airways' free flight offer was going to be when you arrived at Heathrow yesterday morning and found BA staff wearing white sashes and large "Up And Away Day" badges that made them look like winners in an unusual agricultural show.

St George's day colour was provided by out-of-work actors dressed up like those medieval court jesters who serve Japanese tourists at Tudor chicken dinner evenings in London.

Getting on a free flight arouses mixed emotions, especially to those who know how precarious in-flight service can be even when they have paid full whack for their seats. Our worst fears were met when BA564 to Milan, due to leave at 7.45am, was held up for two hours while technicians fixed the computer. Not an auspicious start for a day designed to renew our confidence in flying.

The cabin staff made a valiant effort to make amends. As we boarded the flight Louise Illingworth, a stewardess, greeted us wearing a pig's nose and ears, plucked from a dressing-up box handed out to staff yesterday. Andy Webb, the steward, wore hairy monster's feet and a flashing bow tie. Cliff Richard sang *Congratulations* over the speakers and we read our leaflet *Fly With Confidence: A senior British Airways pilot answers a few of the more common questions people ask about flying.*

The cabin crew ran competitions, such as recognising odd languages announcing the Boeing safety drill. Either our flight was very dim or we were all too scared that the CD prizes were of Cliff singing *Congratulations.*

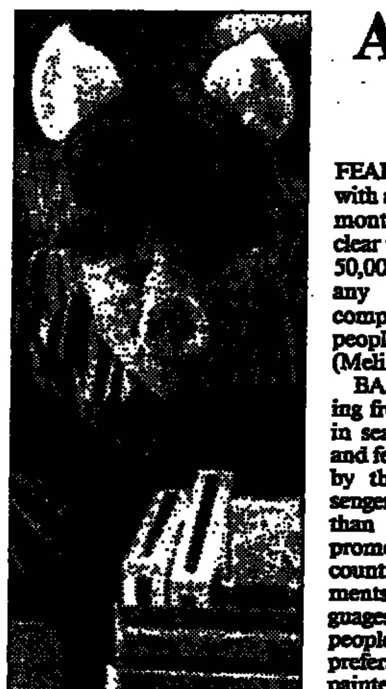
Richard Dukoff-Gordon, the captain, explained how planes had "to wait in a sort of queue to take off, like joining the M25, so we don't all get bunched up". He spoke in a slow, clear Jackanory pace, the verbal equivalent of unjoined-up writing. He seemed to assume that people who had won a free flight had not only never flown before, but may not have been further than their local Tesco's.

I asked my neighbour, Lionel Crotin, if he was excited about flying. "I'm very excited to be flying today, just as I was when I flew yesterday, the day before yesterday and as I will be when I fly tomorrow." Mr Crotin, a Toronto businessman involved in packaging, had paid full price for his Club Class ticket. "But I understand I get a refund," he said.

The captain had more success with Betty Knight from Leicestershire, a frequent but still-nervous flying grandmother, who sat behind Captain Dukoff-Gordon during take-off. Nervous Mrs Knight was too polite to mention how she felt about the plane's computer being taken apart and reassembled like a broken TV set, but it was clearly crossing her mind that she does not rely on her TV set to keep her afloat at 30,000ft.

"I'm frightened to fly. That's why they brought me in here. They told me it would cure my fear. It's a marvellous experience." She arrived in Milan relaxed and happy and raring for Venice.

In the departure lounge at Milan, the Italians seemed bemused by the whole caper. "They don't understand why we are giving away free tickets," Brega Giacomo, a BA man in Milan, said. Perhaps the Italians were just thrown by BA's fancy dress. How would you react if you were an elegant Italian minding your own shoulder pads and another grinning Italian wearing a bearskin and a flashing bow tie came and gave you a pair of free tickets to London?



Louise Illingworth: shows that pigs can fly

A boost for publicity but will it work?

FEAR of flying may evaporate with a free ticket, but it will be months before it becomes clear whether British Airways' 50,000-seat give-away has had any lasting effect on the company's battle to persuade people to take off with them (Melinda Wittstock writes).

BA, which has been suffering from a 30 per cent slump in seat sales as the recession and fears of terrorism inspired by the Gulf war kept passengers away, has spent more than £16 million on the promotion. Newspapers in 62 countries carried advertisements in 27 different languages, all aimed at wooing people back to the skies, preferably with BA. It even painted advertisements on 27 of its aircraft. Other offers linked to yesterday's promotion will bring the total spent by the airline on advertising and seat discounts this year to £50 million.

But will it work? Bill Burchell, a BA spokesman, said: "We expect to reach our pre-war booking levels by this September or October." It will never be clear, however, how much the give-away will have to do with what many in the industry see as an inevitable rise in bookings after the end of the Gulf war and some signs that the recession might be coming to an end.

David Kershaw, joint managing director of Saatchi & Saatchi's London agency, who co-ordinated the advertising campaign, said: "What is certain is that it has created enormous publicity and goodwill."

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Deposit Account	5.33	4.00
Flexible Savings Account (including full bonus)	7.33	5.50
TIMESAVER Account (£1 – £249)	6.00	4.50
(£250 – £999)	7.33	5.50
(£1,000 plus)	8.67	6.50
S.A.Y.E. (7 year equivalent return)	11.49**	8.62
MAXIMISER Bonus Account		
£1,000 – £9,999 (including full bonus)	11.00	8.25
£10,000 plus (including full bonus)	12.00	9.00
MAXIMISER Option 1	10.75	8.06
(Income)	10.25	7.69
MAXIMISER Option 3	11.45	8.59
(Income)	10.90	8.18
MAXIMISER Option 6	12.50	9.38
(Income)	11.85	8.89
MAXIMISER Tax Plan Account	11.45	8.59
MAXIMISER High-Return TESSA‡	14.00	–
MAXIMISER Optimum TESSA‡	13.00	–
MAXIMISER Classic TESSA‡	11.00	–

MAXIMISER Income Account*		
£1,000 – £4,999	10.00	7.50
£5,000 plus	10.90	8.18
MAXIMISER Growth Account*		
£5,000 plus	11.45	8.59
MAXIMISER Top Rate Account*	11.95	8.96
(Income)	11.35	8.51
MAXIMISER Two Year Bond*	13.00	9.75
(Income)	12.30	9.23
MAXIMISER Elite I*	11.45	8.59
Elite II*	11.45	8.59
Elite III*	11.45	8.59
Elite IV*	13.00	9.75
Elite V* £5,000 – £24,999	13.00	9.75
£25,000 plus	13.33	10.00
Elite VI* £5,000 – £24,999	13.00	9.75
£25,000 plus	13.33	10.00
Premium Access (Issue 1)*†	8.85	6.64
(Issue 2)*	9.00	6.75
Real Gold Account* (including full bonus)	9.87	7.40
Extra Interest*†	8.85	6.64
Extra Income*	8.85	6.64
High Income*	10.25	7.69
High Interest*	10.75	8.06
Acorn/Classmate*	6.00	4.50
Holiday Saver (including full bonus)*	7.33	5.50

Interest rates are variable. *Accounts no longer available. **Gross equivalent rate. ‡Includes 1% gross p.a. bonus. †Effective from 25th May 1991. Net equivalents assume the current basic rate of income tax of 25%. All interest rates have been reduced. For details of other accounts please contact your local branch of the Society. Interest will be payable net of the basic rate of income tax (which may be reclaimed by non-taxpayers) or subject to the required registration, gross. The actual net amount receivable by an investor who has not registered for gross interest will depend upon the basic rate of income tax in force at the time interest is credited.

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£25,000 plus	11.85
MAXIMISER Independent Access	11.00
MAXIMISER Independent Accumulator†	12.90
MAXIMISER Independent Bond (Issue II)*	
£5,000 – £24,999	13.00
£25,000 plus	13.33

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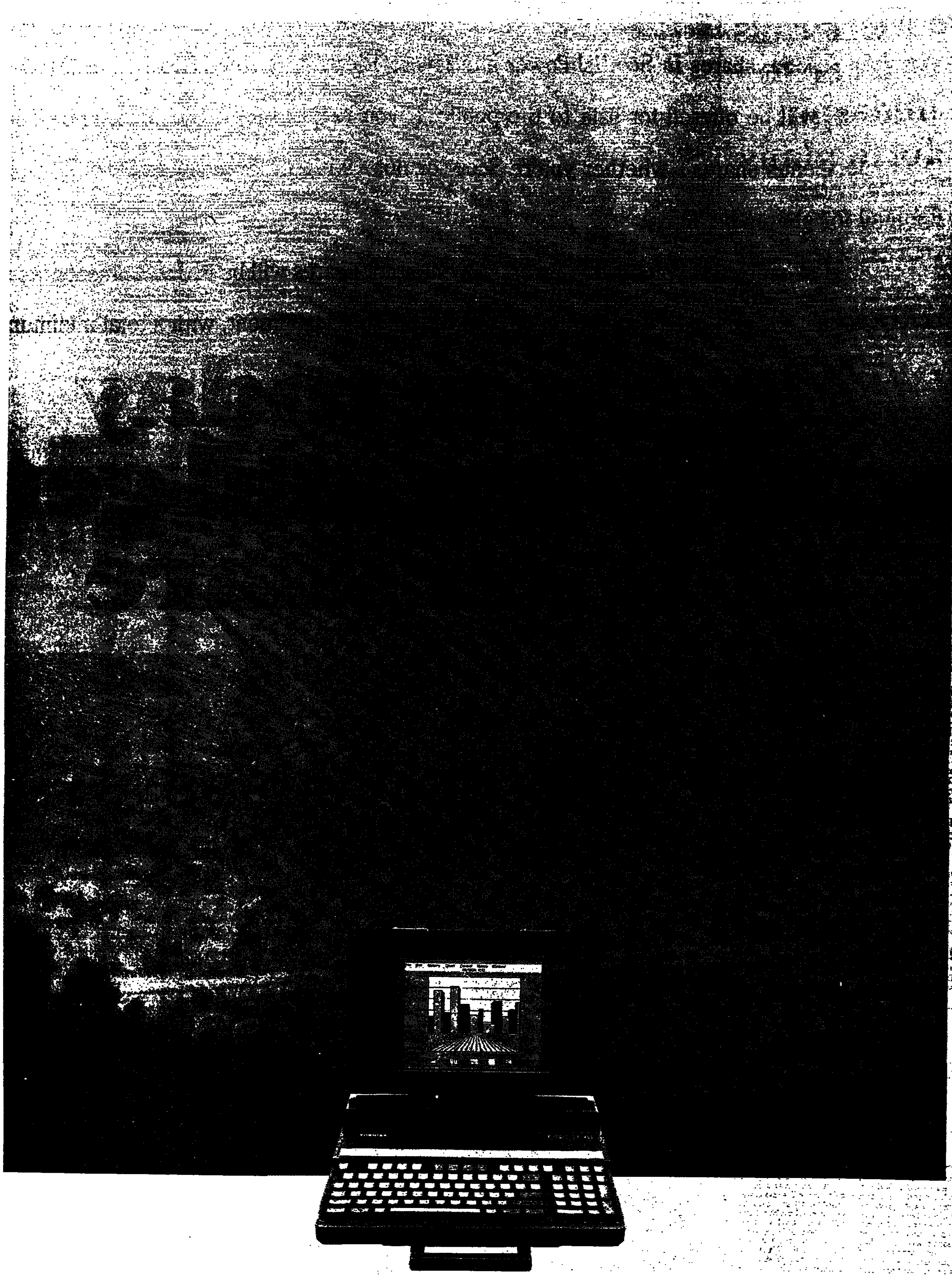

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De Klerk calls for trade to underpin reform plans

By DAVID WATTS, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
AND GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa needs the removal of the remaining obstacles to trade to help build a "vibrant economy" to underpin change, according to President de Klerk, in London on a mission in search of investment.

"Economic development goes hand-in-hand with constitutional development ... Any new government will face high expectations and expectations are high ... constitutional reform must be underpinned by a vibrant economy," he said. The country needed a steady growth rate of 6 per cent to keep pace with its population growth, to build the material and social infrastructure required by reform.

But Mr de Klerk was not revealing whether his meetings with British bankers and financiers had met with success, though he said that the removal of restrictions on trading in krugerrands and steel had helped to increase trade. In an oblique admission that South Africa was not yet seen as a worthwhile investment target in these recessionary times, he admitted that what his country needed most now was confidence.

"We don't ask for handouts; we don't ask for donations," he said. "We ask that all impediments be removed and then we have no doubt we will get a flow of private sector investment ... private companies are ready, willing and able to invest in South Africa." He confirmed that he had invited the prime minister to South Africa and that Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, would also shortly be visiting.

Mr de Klerk said that a bill would soon be published setting up a standing commission on violence, headed by a sitting or retired judge. The commission would gather evidence and take complaints on violence. The national summit which he has called for May 24 and 25 would confirm that it was the responsibility of all leaders in South Africa to bring the violence to an end.

Later, speaking to the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Mr de Klerk rejected an interim government, but said he was prepared to consider certain transitional arrangements. "The government of South Africa has no hidden agenda. It is not seeking to secure any form of white privilege by stealth in the future of South Africa. The concept of democracy the government is committed to achieving is the same concept as that understood in the Western world."

When Mr Hurd visits South Africa he will find a country in the throes of political mayhem, not unlike that in Northern Ireland. Violence in black townships claimed 3,700 lives last year — the corresponding figure in Northern Ireland was 76 — rival black leaders are either unable or unwilling to halt the carnage, and white extremists mutter darkly about armed rebellion.

With the closure of gold mines fuelling economic woes, senior bankers warn that the country could become ungovernable within five years. Chris Stals, the governor of the Reserve Bank, told a recent conference that Pretoria's economic policy was to prepare for growth. "The question is, of course: will we survive the interim period?" he added.

Institute of directors, page 26

Antarctic policy switch

Madrid — Japan said yesterday that it now favours an indefinite ban on mining in Antarctica. In the past Tokyo has supported a convention to regulate mineral activities (Alexander Smith writes).

The reversal follows a similar announcement by Germany last week and further polarizes the position taken by Britain and the United States. They favour a finite period of prohibition on mining, underpinned by a strict legal mechanism regulating minerals activities. Japan emphasised the need for consensus at the meeting of 39 Antarctic Treaty nations.

Law relaxed

Bangkok — The martial law imposed in Thailand after the military coup on February 23 will be lifted early next month, Anand Panyarachun, the prime minister, told reporters. The coup toppled the government of Major-General Chatichai Choonhavan, which the military junta accused of corruption. *(AP)*

Shuttle delayed

Cape Canaveral — Nasa postponed the launch of the space shuttle Discovery, six hours before blast-off, because of a faulty transducer in an engine. The mission by seven astronauts, and the first unclassified launch for the Pentagon, is part of the strategic defence initiative programme. *(AFP)*

Radio control

Melbourne — About 100 fairy penguins off the Australian coast will be fitted with "beepers" to try to discover why hundreds of them starve to death every year. Biologists at Phillip Island, about 60 miles from Melbourne, said periodic waves of starvation leave hundreds of birds washed up on shore. *(Reuter)*

God and guns fail black mayor

By GAVEN BELL

A FEW weeks ago Moses Khumalo told *The Times* that he trusted in God and, to a lesser degree, in police protection and a personal firearm to keep him alive. Last weekend that trinity failed to save him from assassins who lured him into an ambush and blasted his car with rifles, pistols and hand grenades. His body was left sprawling from the car, his gun clenched in his right hand.

As the mayor of the Diepmeadow district of Soweto, Khumalo, aged 63, knew he was a marked man. Six black town councillors were murdered last year after informal civic associations allied to the African National Congress launched a campaign to destroy black local authorities that they regard as anachronisms of apartheid.

Almost half the country's black councillors have resigned, rendering scores of townships ungovernable, and those who remain are subject to public "shunning", marches on their homes, boycotts of their businesses, and death threats.

The irony is that everybody, including the government and the councils, agrees that new multiracial administrations are required, and models are under discussion, but the militants are not prepared to wait. Last year, a councillor in the Transvaal was killed by a hand grenade, one in KwaZulu shot himself in the head after his home was besieged by a mob, and another was burnt alive. While the civic associations distance themselves from the violence, anarchy prevails and councillors and municipal policemen are attacked daily.

Khumalo, a former schoolteacher, was acutely aware of the risks he faced in continuing to work from his office. Newspaper headlines pinned above his desk spelt them out: "Cape deputy mayor killed"; "Black councils on verge of collapse".

The mayor said he stood for election in 1978 because the black authorities were an improvement on white township managers who evicted tenants who fell behind in rent. "I now strongly believe that our councils should be abolished, along with all other vestiges of apartheid, but until a new system is devised we should be allowed to continue to serve our communities. I am holding on because the people who elected me to improve their quality of life are still there."

In harmony: *Mr de Klerk escorting Mrs Thatcher from his London hotel, where she visited him yesterday*

Mandela follows in the president's footsteps

By DAVID WATTS
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

NELSON Mandela arrives in Britain today as President de Klerk leaves for Denmark but the deputy leader of the African National Congress (ANC) denies that he is trying to upstage the presidential visit. "It is pure coincidence," a spokesman at their London office said.

Predictably, he will follow in Mr de Klerk's footsteps by seeing the prime minister and Neil Kinnock, but less predictably he will also see his likeness unveiled at Madame Tussaud's. The main purpose of his trip, according to the ANC, is to see Oliver Tambo, the leader of the congress, who has lived in London since he had a stroke.

Taking advantage of his return from Japan, Mr Mandela will bring Mr Tambo up to date on developments in South Africa and discuss the ANC national conference in June. Mr Tambo is expected to return to South Africa after medical treatment. Before he left Japan, Mr Mandela accused the security forces of conniving in the violence plaguing black townships and urged foreign governments to consult blacks before lifting sanctions.

Defence witness confirms alibi

From ASSOCIATED PRESS
IN JOHANNESBURG

A KEY defence witness testified yesterday that Winnie Mandela was doing social work with her when four youths were allegedly kidnapped and assaulted at Mrs Mandela's home in Soweto, outside Johannesburg.

Nora Moahloli, a school teacher, said she confirmed Mrs Mandela's alibi that she was hundreds of miles away in Brandfort when the four were allegedly attacked. "She was at my place," she said.

Mrs Mandela, wife of Nelson Mandela, the African National Congress deputy leader, and three co-defendants deny eight counts of kidnap and assault. Prosecutors say the defendants abducted four youths on December 29, 1988, and beat them at Mrs Mandela's house.

Mrs Mandela has testified she was in Brandfort with Mrs Moahloli from the evening of December 29, 1988 until new year's eve. She said she was doing social work in the town, where she was sent by the government for nine years for anti-apartheid activity.

Mugabe meets Pretoria official

From JAN RAATH
IN HARARE

PRESIDENT Mugabe of Zimbabwe has held his first known meeting with an official of the South African government since shortly after independence in 1980.

His discussions on Monday with Desmond Krogh, a senior adviser to the governor of the South African Reserve Bank, are seen as a demonstration by Mr Mugabe, previously Africa's bitterest opponent of apartheid, that he regards it as time to end the international isolation of South Africa, especially by the rest of Africa.

Dr Krogh yesterday said that the meeting, arranged at short notice, had been a private one and that he bore no message from either his bank or President de Klerk. But any doubts over the signals Mr Mugabe intended to transmit were dispelled by the treatment given to the meeting by the state press. *The Herald*, the main daily newspaper, carried on its front page a picture of a delighted Mr Mugabe, clasping the hand of the genial Afrikaner.

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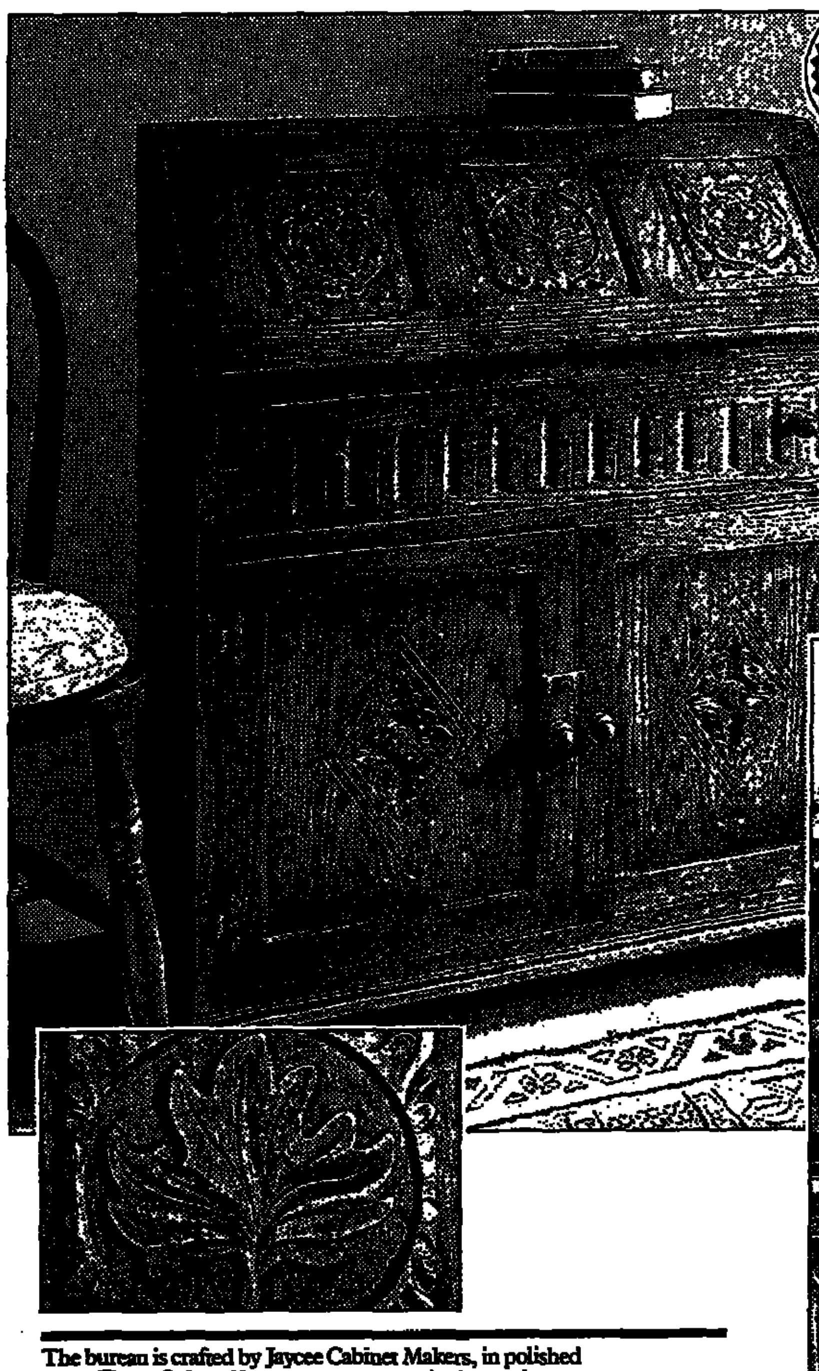

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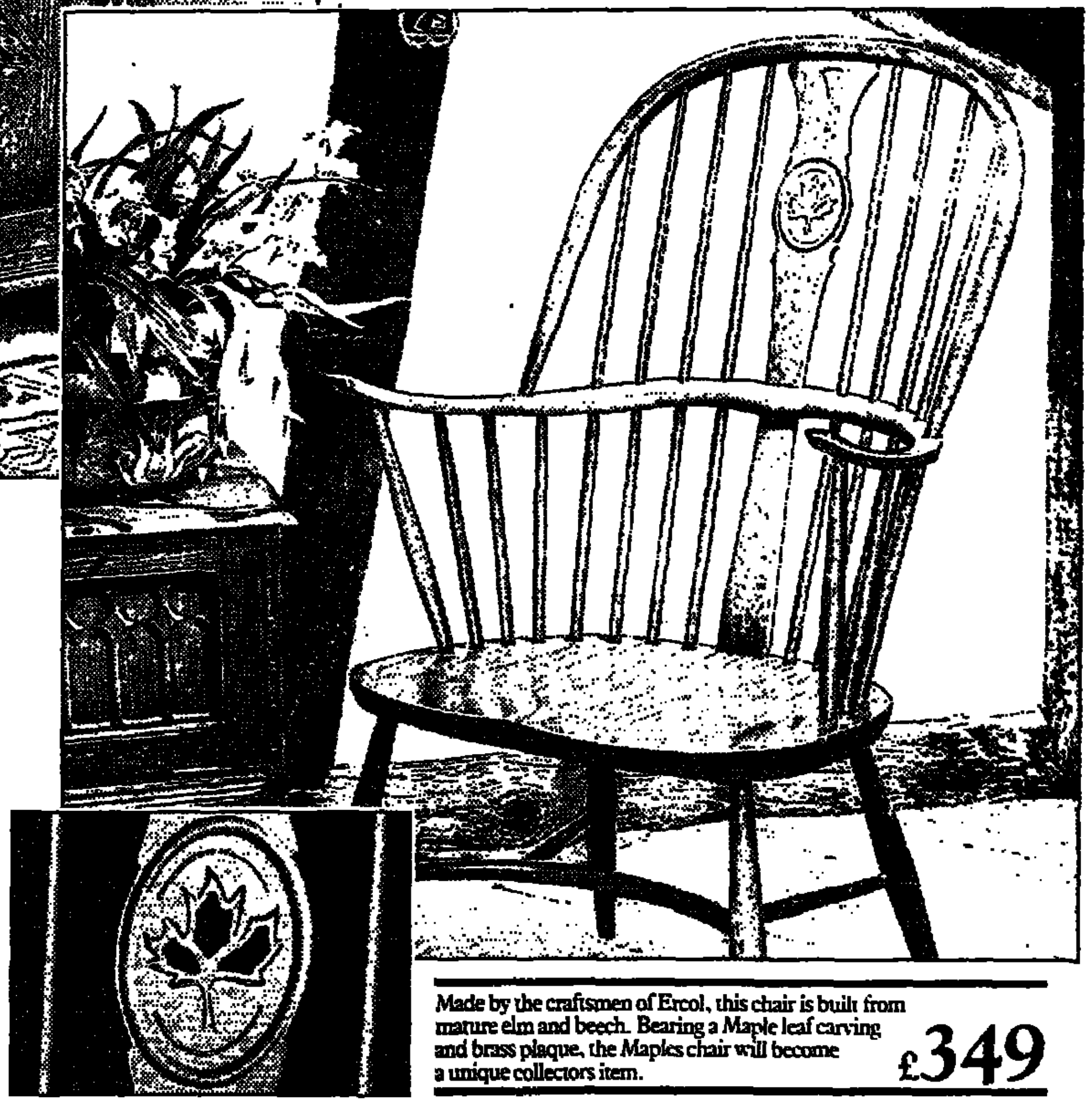

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IRAQ

Party police threaten security of safe haven

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN ZAKHO

THE future of plans by the allies to bring Kurdish refugees from the mountains down to a safe haven in Iraq is being threatened by hundreds of armed Iraqi Baath party policemen who were yesterday still in the border town of Zakho.

A reconnaissance party of Royal Marines toured the deserted town yesterday and saw groups of armed police outnumbering the remaining Kurds in some areas. Frightened residents made repeated allegations of intimidation and looting since the tough-looking police were bussed into the town three days ago. Some said they had been forced to put back portraits of President Saddam Hussein on their walls.

At one corner tea shop, a Kurd pointed to the uniformed men looking on suspiciously and wrote the figure of 500 on the palm of his hand. "That is how many now. They are very bad men sent here by Saddam Hussein," he whispered.

Kurdish tribal leaders from the mountainside refugee centres yesterday failed to attend their first scheduled meeting here with senior American officers, apparently out of concern at the continuing Iraqi presence which the Americans have promised to end, but have so far not done so. "I do not like to be the bearer of bad news, but unfortunately the meeting did not take place," said Gordon Murchie, information officer of the US disaster assistance reaction team. "The leaders had been due to fly down by helicopter so that they could report on the new camp and persuade their people to come down to it."

Because so many Kurds have fled from Zakho, the number of police on the ground feels greater than it would be when the town was its normal size. According to residents and American aid workers, the police were involved in a shooting incident late on Monday night.

Mr Murchie, who has lived in a tent in northern Iraq since American forces drove across the border, said: "The presence of the police has had a somewhat chilling impact on the town. It is an item of concern which will be addressed this week. The Iraqis are undertaking a tactic of psychological warfare."

The police were smartly dressed in drab olive-green fatigues in contrast to the shabby camouflage kit of the few Iraqi soldiers still in the area, who were much more friendly to Western troops and occasionally gave them the V-for-victory sign.

"I know these are special forces sent from Baghdad in policemen's uniforms. I even recognised one of them," said Hamid Suliman, an unemployed Kurdish driver. "They are taking the numbers of our cars, watching our movements and making intelligence about us."

Mr Suliman and many other Kurds who approached our Land-Rover insisted that few of those who fled from Zakho to Turkey would return while the police remained. "No Kurdish people will come back from the mountains while these men remain in town. They have been sent to frighten us and remind us what will happen to us if the American and British soldiers go away," said Mr Suliman. "They have now begun stealing things from the houses left empty by the Kurds."

Ramsi Suleman, who spoke when he made sure no police were watching our small party, said: "They have been entering the empty houses at night taking televisions, videos and anything valuable. It is what they did in Kuwait City."

On Monday, US marines forced 30 Iraqi soldiers from a position overlooking the town where they have remained in a bunker with a heavy machine-gun, despite orders to go south. The Iraqi lieutenant-colonel in charge told the Americans: "I will be happy to leave, but I have not yet received any orders to do so."

A Kurdish customer at one of the few small shops now open in Zakho spoke out, although the police fingering their AK47 rifles stared at him from only a few yards away. "They ask us if we are Kurds. If we say yes, they ask us if we support Saddam," he said in broken English. "If we say 'no', they beat us. Please get them away."

On a nearby road, a large portrait of Saddam painted on a wall riddled with hundreds of bullets summed up the hostility felt towards the Iraqi president by most of the original 100,000 residents of Zakho. The unexplained presence of his party police, often Saddam lookalikes with moustaches, made it easy to understand why so many of the Kurds are reluctant to return, despite the horrific conditions in the mountains, where up to 1,000 refugees are dying every day.

Canvas comfort: Kurdish families sitting outside rows of tents at the Iranian Pol-e-Felezzi refugee camp near the border with Iraq. Some camps have still not received tents

NORTHERN IRAQ

Artillery may go to border

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE bulk of 3 Commando Brigade will have arrived in northern Iraq by the end of the week to take part in Operation Haven. Although there is still no official announcement, 29 Commando Regiment Royal Artillery, equipped with 105mm light guns, is expected to be sent to Iraq to provide firepower in case of interference by Iraqi troops.

A defence ministry source said: "The one thing you can expect on operations like this is the unexpected. So the general feeling is why be left without your integral artillery support. If it is there and not used so much the better, but at least it is there if required."

The plan is to send the whole of 40 and 45 Commando. The third manoeuvre group, 42 Commando, is being replaced by the 1st Amphibious Combat Group of the Royal Netherlands Marine Corps. The British-Dutch force is expected to come under the command of Major-General Robin Ross, who is Major-General Royal Marines Commando Forces.

Tom King, the defence secretary, held talks in Paris yesterday with Pierre Joxe, his French counterpart, on British and French contributions to the multinational Kurdish relief operation.

Saddam's men keep up pretence

Baghdad's secret police have nowhere to hide in the deserted Kurdish town of Dahuk, Adam Kelliher reports. But their presence reinforces refugees' fears

THE secret police officers gave a surly glance upwards as two US Air Force F16s screeched past on a rooftop level sortie which was just another reminder to the Iraqis that American marines hold positions 25 miles away.

"They come to see the people," muttered one of the officers, named Amar. "Every one or two hours we see planes from America. They want to prove the power of the United States."

Beyond watching the skies, there is not much work these days for the secret police in Dahuk, a town 40 miles from the Turkish frontier that housed some 130,000 Kurds before the anti-government rebellion last month spirited 90 per cent of the people away. The group of about 20 men basked in the sun outside their fortress-like headquarters, some in the dark green uniforms worn by Baathist party cadres, others in civilian clothes for their duties in the settlement at the foot of barren ranges that extend into Turkey.

The only active member was a solitary worker restoring a portrait of President Saddam Hussein which, like all in the town, had been destroyed during the ten-day occupation of the town by the insurgents. He splashed a final coat of lurid blue paint on to a concrete plinth, on which was to be attached a massive banner of Saddam. Other newly completed portraits lay stacked in the background. "There are so many people here. You can look around the city and see," said Amar, curiously, because the street was totally deserted. "We are the secret police, but we have no secrets."

But for any visitor to Dahuk it is no secret that only a meagre portion of the population have returned from Iran and Turkey, and serious doubts exist as to whether many others will come home. Reporters who went to the desolate frontier zone on Tuesday saw only a minimal increase in human activity since the last press visit one week ago, despite the subsequent creation of an American protected "safe haven" in Zakho, 25 miles from Dahuk.

The United Nations will soon establish an office in Dahuk, and create a network of scores of posts for UN workers. But the area is stricken by the nearly total absence of food, fuel, water and electricity.

If the exodus reversed itself, those coming home would find no quick escape from their misery across the border. "If these people outside the city came back, we could not serve them for more than two days," said Dr Kazal Hammadi, the chief surgeon of Saddam General Hospital, in Dahuk, in which only 30 of the 400 beds are filled. "Every day a relief group comes promising things, but nothing ever comes." Beyond the immediate hardships, it was also clear that the government's pronouncements of an amnesty have failed to gain the confidence of many of the population who, in various asides, expressed fear about Baghdad's intentions.

One Kurdish man discreetly guided me to his house, where he showed doors that had been breached by looters who had cleared it of all valuables. Over a cup of syrupy tea in his courtyard he expressed despair about his situation after bringing his family home from the Turkish mountains three days ago. "We came back from Turkey because these children were dying," he said, patting the head of one of his sizeable tribe of offspring. "But in this city there is nothing. No food. No water. No life."

Dahuk's district governor, Mohammad Piroz Rostam, insisted to reporters that there would be no revenge against anyone who fled, and that lawbreakers would be judged only on the basis of legal testimony. "Until now, we have not sentenced anyone to death because nobody has given any testimony," he said.

"Ninety per cent of the Iraqi Kurds are with the government. Only 10 per cent are against us," he insisted during the impromptu press meeting in the city depopulated by terror.

His companion was president of Kurdistan's executive council, Jafar Abdul Karim Barzanchi. Last week he was in Baghdad, reportedly for talks with members of the two main Kurdish opposition groups that focused on a deal over self-rule arrangements through which he is currently employed by Baghdad as the nominally autonomous leader of Kurdistan province. He refused to comment on the negotiations, but before speeding off in a car claimed that "there was a conspiracy against the Kurds of Iraq".

"If the Americans can have any effect on the Turkish or Iranian side, then ask them to let the Kurds come home," said Mr Barzanchi, who fled to Baghdad during the rebellion. "Anyone who has committed a mistake, and wants to come home, then welcome to him. The door is open."

President praises general

Washington — President Bush gave General Norman Schwarzkopf a hearty welcome back to the United States, saying his leadership during the Gulf war gave a big boost to American morale.

"Welcome, well done," Mr Bush told General Schwarzkopf. "What you and your troops did in terms of fulfilling our objectives was fantastic and what you and your troops did for the morale in the United States of America is unbelievable," he said.

Neither would comment when asked about General Schwarzkopf's comments last month in which he said he had recommended troops "continue the march" to Baghdad but that the president had called off the destruction of Iraq's army.

The president, who has admired General Schwarzkopf's no-nonsense approach to dealing with the media, grabbed the general by the arm and told reporters: "Would you like to see how a guy should handle the press? Come on, Norm! And don't change your style." The general said: "What I'd really like to say is that if the president is not going to answer any questions, I damn sure am not going to answer any questions."

Soldier loses foot

Ankara — An American sergeant, Todd Reed, aged 29, lost a foot when he stepped on a land mine at a Kurdish refugee camp near Uzumlu on the Turkish-Iraqi border, the US military said. Another man, Captain Daniel Cooper, suffered minor shrapnel wounds in the same explosion. *(AP)*

Surplus for aid

Luxembourg — European farm ministers are to examine whether some of the community's food surpluses could be sent to starving Kurdish refugees in northern Iraq. The idea was raised by the Irish Republic, but other ministers, though sympathetic, thought it might not work as supplies would have to be processed first.

Dress arrests

Nicosia — Tehran police detained 800 women for flouting an Islamic dress code which requires women appearing in public to be covered from head to toe, the Iranian news agency, IRNA, said. *(Reuter)*

GERMANY

Bonn to join aid effort

From IAN MURRAY
IN BONN

GERMANY is to send up to 2,000 parachutists and Pioneer Corps members to Iran to help build three camps for Kurdish refugees.

Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, said in Berlin yesterday that he had reached agreement with the Iranian government to establish a security zone along the Iraqi border similar to the one set up by the United States in Iraq and that an airlift would be started by the German armed forces.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, has praised the Iranian government for its co-operation. He is to visit Tehran early next month for talks.

A decision on German help for Iraq is also likely soon. Herr Kohl said it went without saying that a rich country like Germany should make its contribution to humanitarian aid but that it was the duty of the international community to oppose the criminal policies of Iraq, which as far as the Kurds were concerned, could only be described as genocide.

The opposition Social Democratic party (SPD) has already said that it considers using the Bundeswehr in Iraq will be unconstitutional, but Hans-Jochen Vogel, the SPD chairman, said yesterday that his party stood ready to discuss a constitutional amendment which would clear the way for German troops to be used for humanitarian purposes endorsed by the United Nations.

German aid for the Kurdish refugees so far has totalled DM415 million (£140 million).

BAKER MISSION

US move to win Soviet support

By OUR FOREIGN STAFF

JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, will begin a hastily-arranged visit to the Soviet Union today to further his Middle East peace efforts. He is hoping to persuade Moscow to restore full diplomatic relations with Israel, which were severed 24 years ago.

During his talks with Aleksandr Bessmertnykh, the foreign minister, in the southern Russian city of Kislovodsk tomorrow, Mr Baker will also seek to break the deadlock on two arms control treaties and so pave the way for a summit. Washington wants the Soviet Union to co-sponsor the Middle East peace conference that Mr Baker is striving to convene. Israel is making the restoration of diplomatic relations a condition for accepting Moscow's participation.

In Moscow, Vitali Churkin, the foreign ministry spokesman, said the Middle East and security arrangements in the Gulf would be the main topics, although other matters of mutual interest would be discussed. "It would be over-hasty to say that a date for a summit will be set," he said.

The Soviet Union, despite its internal problems, has stoutly defended its right to a say in the Middle East peace-making process, if only as a member of the United Nations Security Council.

Mr Baker will fly direct to Kislovodsk from Syria and will return to Israel on Thursday evening. When he meets Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, on Friday he hopes to receive a clear indication of the Israeli government's views on negotiating with the Arabs. Although all the parties in the proposed regional conference have agreed to meet in principle, it is feared that the traditional rivalry between Damascus and Jerusalem could prevent the meeting ever taking place.

The Israeli and Syrian leaderships disagree on the structure of the talks, who will represent the Palestinians and the involvement of the UN and the European Community. President Assad of Syria insists that Israel withdraw from all occupied Arab lands and in particular relinquishes the Golan Heights. Mr Shamir and his government have vowed never to give up any captured lands.

Baker: off to Russia after his two-day visit to Syria

Assad: talks with Baker in Damascus yesterday

DIPLOMACY

Baghdad traps UN with camp request

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

IRAQ formally asked the United Nations yesterday to take control of the refugee camps established by Western troops in northern Iraq.

The request immediately trapped the UN in the awkward position of having to agree terms for taking over the camps with both Western governments and Baghdad. Although British and American officials emphasise that the Western presence in northern Iraq is only temporary, they insist that the Kurds receive a measure of protection — possibly by the deployment of a UN peacekeeping force. Baghdad, on the other hand, wants to re-establish its authority over all Iraqi territory and has agreed to a purely civilian UN relief operation.

A UN spokeswoman said that the organisation was studying the Iraqi request, and that it had been conveyed to Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the secretary-general, who was visiting France. The first tangible UN action is likely to be a trip by Bernt Bernander of Sweden, the UN representative in Baghdad, to northern Iraq later this week to inspect possible sites for relief centres.

Iraq's request to the UN was made in a letter from Ahmad Hussein al-Khodair, the foreign minister, to Señor Pérez de Cuéllar.

KUWAIT

Palestinians race to beat residence deadline

From JAMIE DETTMER
IN KUWAIT CITY

THE Kuwaiti army captain reached out to grab my notebook. The attempt repulsed, he sat back in his swing chair in the cramped front office of the school. Four soldiers looked at him questioningly to see if he was determined to seize the notebook.

"You need special order from interior ministry to talk to people in this area," he said. He shifted his white *gutra* to cover more of his face. "You can't take any opinion from people in this area."

Outside, beneath the midday sun, the crowd of foreign nationals, mainly Palestinian, wilted, waiting their turn to start the laborious process of registering for continued residence in the emirate. Most of the 5,000 to 6,000 men and a few hundred women had queued since the early hours in order to be among the 100 or so who would manage to get into the school and apply.

Yesterday was the second day of registration. Non-Kuwaitis have been given until May 15 to register or face six months in prison, or a hefty fine. Those abroad now who fled the Iraqi invasion will not be allowed back. They include about 200,000 Palestinians, half the resident Palestinian population, according to government officials.

Gulf Arabs can register at their local governate. For Palestinians, registration will be a race against time, which many could lose. All who live in the two main Palestinian districts here, Hawally and far-flung Farwania, and those who live in Palestinian areas in Salmiyah, are required to register in the school on the Jabria-Hawally border. Only 28 ministry staff have been allocated to deal with up to 200,000 Palestinians. The staff are in no hurry. Despite interior ministry claims that more than 1,000 people were dealt with on Monday, the records at the school show that only 175 applications were processed.

Nadia, aged 32, said: "I was here at 6.30 in the morning on Monday and stayed until they closed at six in the evening, and I came back this morning at five. I have four children. I was born here, learnt here, married here, had my children here. I know nothing about Palestine."

Nearby, a Palestinian man asked a soldier for some application forms, explaining that he was needed at Farwania hospital where he is an administrator. The soldier started to hand some over. "What nationality are you?" the soldier asked. "Palestinian," the man said. "Get away, you donkey," the soldier replied. Inside the school, Saad al-Asassi, an interior ministry official, said: "We don't need any more staff." Asked why most of the 28 staff seemed to be doing nothing, he said they were packing up for lunch — an hour early.

Most of the talk in the queues of Palestinians outside was centred on their fears that they would be excluded from state education. Sir Timothy Raison, the Tory MP, who is in Kuwait as vice-chairman of the British Council, is heading a team negotiating education deals with Kuwait. He agreed that he had the impression the government was thinking in terms of employing only Kuwaitis to teach in schools, which were likely to be exclusively for Kuwaiti children.

Rebuilding Kuwait, pages 30-32

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Gorbachev pleads with republics to support his reforms

From BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev yesterday implored sceptical leaders of the Soviet republics to back his economic rescue plans, as senior Communists prepared to denounce his performance as general secretary, and just conceivably force him out, at a meeting today.

The republics' leaders, whose consent is vital if the rescue plan is to have a chance of success, called it vague and utopian as they convened in Moscow to discuss it. However some, including the leaders of the Ukraine and Kazakhstan, seem prepared to accept it in principle.

Mr Gorbachev's chief spokesman, Vitali Ignatenko, spoke of unprecedentedly "sharp and frank discussion" at today's plenary session of the Communist party's central committee, but suggested that his leader would argue back passionately. While acknowledging that "things are not easy for Mikhail Gorbachev", the spokesman predicted that the president would "affirm, even more strongly, his faith that the cause in which he is leading his life is a just cause, one that holds great promise".

In an effort to rally liberal support, Mr Ignatenko said criticism of Mr Gorbachev was coming mainly from the party's notorious apparatus of full-time workers, and from reactionary forces who wanted revenge for the loss of power they suffered when perestroika was launched in 1985. While republican leaders censured the ideas for not giving them enough power, his plan is likely to come under fire at today's meeting of Communists for conceding too much to capitalism and the free market.

Denunciations of Mr Gorbachev's leadership have been heard from local Communist organisations all over the country, including Leningrad, the industrial city of Sverdlovsk, and the vital oil centre of Tyumen. However, in a significant boost to the morale of the Gorbachev camp, the Moscow branch of the Communist party voted against moving a resolution of no-confidence, although several districts of the capital had already come out for a change of general secretary. First reports suggested that the vote in the Moscow party cell had been finely balanced.

The party daily *Pravda*, denouncing Mr Gorbachev's critics in terms that suggested considerable worry over his future, named four cities in the southwestern Soviet Union, the political heartland of Leonid Brezhnev, where Communists wanted a change of leader. It said there had been calls there for the leader's picture to be removed from walls, and even for him to be publicly tried for his failings. But the newspaper insisted that there was no alternative to Mr Gorbachev and said many of his critics would be "wailing" if he actually left power.

Republican leaders were also summoned to Moscow to discuss clinching a deal on a new union treaty remaking the country as a looser federation. Mr Gorbachev made it clear during his recent visit to Japan that he is anxious for an early deal on the federal treaty. His proposals have been condemned by Kremlin conservatives for giving away too much of the central authorities' power, and by many republics for not giving away enough.

The Ukrainian prime minister, Vitold Fokin, said as he went into the talks that although the economic rescue plan had "many shortcomings" it none the less "cannot be rejected completely, because that would be destructive and against the public interest". Before today's Communist party meeting, some analysts were predicting that Mr Gorbachev would somehow scrape though.

"I am convinced that Gorbachev will face the sharpest criticism since he became general secretary six years ago," Alexei Prigarin, a central committee member, told the liberal daily *Nezavisimaya*. But he added: "I am convinced all the same that he will not be removed from this post."

The post of general secretary of the Communist party was Mr Gorbachev's main source of authority until last spring, when he engineered the abolition of the Communists' formal monopoly on power, and his own elevation to the new position of executive state president.

Had he renounced his party post while remaining head of state last year, the move might have been interpreted as a spectacular attempt to jettison a declining Communist movement and consolidate his new law-based state. His removal from the party now would be a bitter humiliation.

Minsk workers resume strike

From ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

INDUSTRIAL workers in the Soviet republic of Belorussia resumed a general strike yesterday to force the republic's government to concede sweeping political changes. In the capital, Minsk, thousands of people, some carrying banners proclaiming "We want to live like capitalists", attended a rally in Lenin Square. Speakers read out list of demands which include the dismemberment of the Communist party and the resignation of the Soviet government and President Gorbachev.

The workers' leaders are also calling for the introduction of a "Chernobyl crime" commission to try those responsible for the alleged cover-up after the nuclear power station disaster, which happened five years ago this week. Sergei Mikhno, a strike spokesman, said: "Pay rises will not decide anything any more. It is a change in the system we want. We are now striking against the Belorussian parliament and struggling for the sovereignty of the Belorussian people. The length of this action will depend on the decision made by the workers' collectives but at the moment the mood is to continue; it is an indefinite strike."

The workers' action, which has the support of hundreds of thousands of striking Russian and Ukrainian miners who stopped work two months ago, has been taken despite moves by the central government to declare a moratorium on strikes. Many factories in Minsk were reported to have been affected. Strikers claimed that 42 important plants — including the Minsk tractor factory, which employs 30,000 people — had stopped work. There was also spasmodic support in seven other cities. Public transport workers in Minsk have said they will join the strike today.

The demand by workers' leaders for special courts to try those responsible for the alleged disinformation spread after the Chernobyl accident come after years of alleged neglect of the republic's health problems. Mr Mikhno said: "Two million people live in the area affected by the atomic disaster." The Belorussian praesidium is expected to meet today to formulate a strategy to cope with the increasing unrest.

Leading lady: Audrey Hepburn arriving at the Lincoln Centre in New York with actor Gregory Peck for a gala tribute in her honour. The event, organised by the Film Society, was attended by more than 200 people

Kohl opts for Berlin as capital

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

HELMUT Kohl, the German chancellor, said yesterday that he supported Berlin's claim to be united Germany's seat of government. Herr Kohl told a meeting in the city that he believed the country would stand a better chance of growing together if the decision were taken soon to move the government from Bonn to Berlin.

Berlin, under the terms of the treaty of union between the two Germanies, has already been designated the capital for all ceremonial purposes. The government, however, remains in Bonn.

The issue is causing deep divisions within the main parties. The Christian Social Union, the Christian Democratic Union's sister party in Bavaria, resents the idea of Berlin being given more status. Theo Waigel, the party's leader and the finance minister, promptly dismissed the chancellor's statement as nothing but "a decision by Bundestag member Kohl".

Herr Kohl said that he based his choice on his personal relations with the city and on the respect he had for its achievements during the years of division. Berlin deserved special trust, he said. He did not believe a move would be possible for ten to 15 years. Even then, he expected some ministries, such as defence, to remain in Bonn. "We owe it to Bonn to leave some functions there."

Herr Kohl's choice has been seen as important because of his role in uniting Germany. Though he will have no more say than any other Bundestag member in the free vote in June on where parliament should sit, his decision could influence some members.

Army hardliner takes charge

From DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

THE Yugoslav defence minister, General Veljko Kadijevic, who is believed to be gravely ill, has been admitted to hospital and his duties have been taken over by General Blagoje Adzic, a hardliner known for his hostility to the democratically elected nationalist government in Croatia.

The appointment, which it was said would be temporary, is bound to encounter bitter opposition from Croatia as well as Slovenia, inflicting new strains on the already shaky relations with the federal authorities in general, and with the military establishment in particular.

General Adzic is known to have advocated intervention in Croatia, and for several months the Croatian authorities have demanded that he be removed from the post of chief of the general staff.

In contrast to General Kadijevic, who is regarded as a moderate and a firm Yugoslav, which means that in the Serbo-Croat conflict he takes a neutral stance, General Adzic is hostile to the new Croatian regime. During the recent crisis over the arming of police reservists in Croatia, he is believed to have led the group in the army which favoured a military takeover. Croatia demanded his resignation, a demand which was repeated recently.

The army has grudgingly agreed to stay clear of politics while the republics continue to wrangle over Yugoslavia's future. But it has also said it would not stand by if ethnic conflicts broke out. The army remains hostile towards the governments in the northern republics, which it blames for the problems in Yugoslavia and for hostility towards the army.

Anti-war minister comes out fighting

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

JEAN-PIERRE Chevènement, who resigned as France's minister of defence earlier this year in protest against the government's Gulf war policy, is to contest — and almost certainly win — a by-election in the constituency that originally sent him to the National Assembly.

To judge by his remarks when the decision was announced, M Chevènement intends to come out fighting. He remains adamant that the Gulf conflict was "avoidable, unnecessary and harmful to the prospects of peace in the Middle East", to say nothing of the damage it did to French interests there.

Chevènement: coming back to plague Rocard

Although the socialists will support M Chevènement's campaign in Belfort, where he is a popular mayor, the prospect of this tough left-wing infighter returning to the back benches will not thrill the hard-pressed prime minister, Michel Rocard. It is no secret that the two did not get on long before M Chevènement's overt and provocatively voiced opposition to French policy in the Gulf war made his position untenable.

On past form, M Chevènement can be expected to support, probably lead, the "insurrectionist wing" of the party that believes M Rocard's pragmatic approach to governing without an absolute majority represents a betrayal of socialist principles. With the French economy, unemployment rising and the public service unions grumbling about pay, there should be ample scope for harassing the prime minister without actually voting against his policies.

Walesa aides fend off challenge

From ROGER BOYES IN WARSAW

WHILE President Walesa handles the pomp of his British state visit, his advisers have plunged into a row over the military powers of the Polish head of state.

Lech Kaczynski, head of the president's National Security Council, yesterday crossed swords with Janusz Onyskiewicz, the deputy defence minister, over who is ultimately responsible for the Polish armed forces. The argument is one of many that are taking place in the current constitutional vacuum. So far only the president has been chosen by an entirely free election. He nominated the government, which owes its authority to him.

Parliament is still stacked with former communists whose seats were guaranteed by the now defunct round table power-sharing agreement of 1989, and wholly free elections are expected in the autumn. The result is that Mr Walesa and his team have been accumulating power. It was always clear that he wanted to be a more politically active head of state than his predecessor, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, but the awkward balance between parliament and president was drawn up with General Jaruzelski in mind.

President Walesa has been improvising solutions and his advisers have been following up by trying to give institutional force to the makeshift measures. Hence the row over the army. The political establishment agrees that a civilian defence minister should be appointed and that the army should be modernised, but also scaled down. This raises the relationship of the defence minister to the army. At a stormy government committee meeting, Mr Kaczynski argued that the president, as supreme commander, should be the man to appoint the chief of general staff. Moreover, the president should have the sole right to nominate members of the National Security Council. Mr Onyskiewicz, however, argued that this was scratching away at government control of defence policy. There was no role left for a defence minister.

Under the present constitution the president has the right to dissolve parliament, to initiate legislation and to declare a state of emergency. He has the duty to supervise foreign and defence policy. But there are strict parliamentary curbs on all these powers.

Mr Walesa, and particularly his two key advisers, the twins Jaroslaw and Lech Kaczynski, say that a lame-duck parliament populated by communists who did not earn their seats should not be in the business of curbing a democratically elected president.

The president's men pop up everywhere: his liaison man, Slawomir Siwek, sits in on all cabinet meetings to ensure that the president is fully informed about government plans.

This tug-of-war will continue at least until the new constitution is ready. Parliament is concentrating on changing national voting rules and thus paving the way for a general election. Only then, with a strong, independent parliament, will there be an effective counterweight to the powers of the president.

Quake kills 50 in Costa Rica

San José — A powerful earthquake has killed at least 50 people and injured 500 others in the Costa Rican resort of Limón, toppling an hotel and destroying scores of homes.

Scores of people were feared trapped under the rubble after the earthquake, which registered 7.4 on the Richter scale, and thousands were left homeless.

Yesterday a 15-member British rescue team flew to Central America to help find people who may be trapped. The members of the International Rescue Corps planned to use ultra-sensitive listening devices, thermal-imaging cameras and fiber-optic probes to find survivors.

Alberto Lee, an official from the International Committee for the Red Cross, said a preliminary survey showed that 11 people died and 24 were injured when an hotel and a building in Limon collapsed. Eight people died and 15 were injured in the Panamanian provinces of Bocas del Toro and Chiriqui, near the border. *(AP)*

Budget deadlock

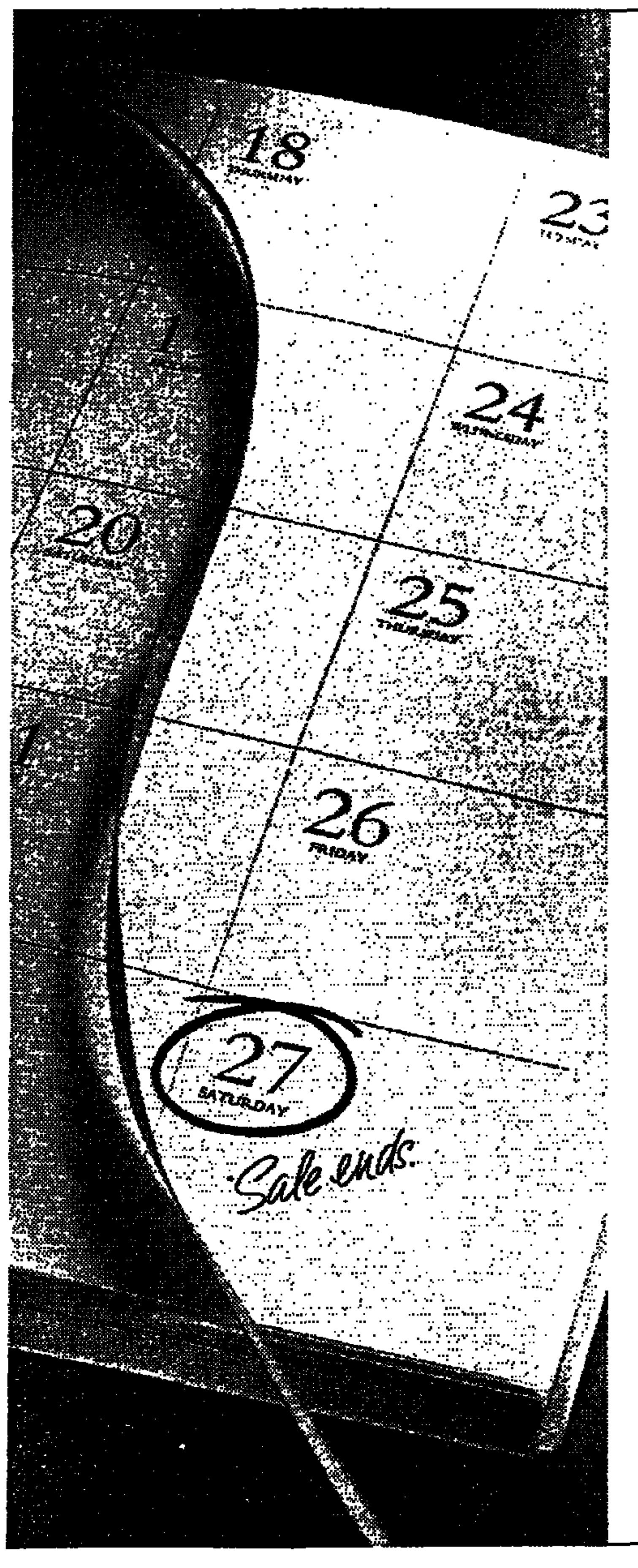
Luxembourg — European Community agriculture ministers yesterday failed for the third time to find a way to keep farm spending within its budget over the next 12 months. The dispute might have to be resolved by heads of government at their next summit, to be held here at the end of June.

Rail sale plea

Bonn — Heinz Dürr, the new head of Germany's railways, who has the task of merging the networks of east and west, called yesterday for the constitution to be changed to allow the system to be privatised. He said the change to a private company would lead to incentives for the 250,000-strong workforce.

Girl kidnapped

Melbourne — About 200 police are searching for Karmein Chan, aged 13, believed to be the latest victim of a kidnapper dubbed "Mr Cruel". She was seized at knifepoint while looking after her two younger sisters. Two other girls were recently taken from their homes but subsequently freed. *(Reuter)*



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THEATRE

Methods and manoeuvres

Interested parties: Stanislavsky (left), whose theatrical theories were satirised by Bulgakov (centre) in *Black Snow*, now adapted for the stage by Keith Dewhurst (right)

Turning a Bulgakov novel into effective stage comedy is tricky, even for an experienced adapter, Keith Dewhurst tells Heather Neill

Keith Dewhurst was the last uncredited re-write man on Zeffirelli's film *Jesus of Nazareth*. This fact appears in his agent's biographical notes and he volunteers it in conversation. It is not, of course, the most interesting thing about him — he is an experienced writer for television (*Z Cars*, *Van der Valk*, and 18 plays) and for the theatre (*Lark Rise*, *The World Turned Upside Down*, and others) — but it does provide a clue about his personality. He is modest, quietly spoken, at first almost diffident, but he knows when he has done a good job. He is thorough, determined to get things right and not thrown by the need for co-operation.

His latest project, for the National Theatre, turned out to be more difficult than he had expected. Bulgakov's novel, *Black Snow*, has the advantage of being a theatrical story and contains ready-made dialogue. Adapting for the stage, however, was not Dewhurst's idea, but that of the director, William Gaskill. "It's about Stanislavsky, and Bill is the leading Stanislavskian in our theatre. I had to understand his obsession." Having penetrated another's conciousness, he still faced the more common problems of the adapter: "I had to be faithful to Bulgakov and to make a play that has its own energy."

It helped that he had known Gaskill since the Fifties when he was working for Granada Television and Dewhurst was beginning his first career — as a journalist, fresh from Cambridge, on the *Manchester Evening Chronicle*. "I have always written a lot in rehearsal and Bill — I call him the Admiral — is the ideal person to do that with."

Bulgakov became something of a cult figure in the Sixties and Seventies, when his novels and plays began to appear in the West. His acknowledged masterpiece, *The Master and Margarita*, was not published until more than 20 years after his death in 1940. *Black Snow*, written in 1936-37, remained unfinished, first appearing in print in 1965 in the magazine *Novy Mir*.

The plot describes the experience of Maksudov, a novelist-turned-playwright whose new play, *Black Snow*, is due to be performed at the Moscow Art Theatre. Bulgakov's friends, who were treated to readings, would have recognised his own difficulties in getting his work presented according to his wishes.

By 1925, when the novel is set, the heyday of the MAT was history, as far away, Dewhurst points out, as *Look Back in Anger* is from us. Stanislavsky, co-founder with Nemirovich-Danchenko, had put his theories about theatrical realism into practice there, theories which continue to influence modern acting technique, filtering through what had become known as "The Method". Chekhov's plays were first performed at the MAT and, in its day, its reputation was formidable.

But Stanislavsky became autocratic and many frustrated actors and writers must have enjoyed Bulgakov's searing satire in which the great man, in the character of Ivan Vassilievich, appears comically vain, hypochondriacal and cavalier in his treatment of other artists, especially the writer.

> *'Will the audience recognise the failed gunshot as a joke about Uncle Vanya?'*

But is there not a danger that all this might seem rather precious? Will the audience recognise, for instance, the reference to a failed gunshot as being an arch joke about *Uncle Vanya*? Dewhurst thinks the comedy is strong enough to carry the play for any audience. "The more you know, the funnier it is, but it's entertaining as a backstage piece, anyway."

Besides, he says, the MAT stands as metaphor "for any organisation that has become institutionalized. The fact that it is set in a theatre makes it ludicrous. But there is also something very melancholy in it: Bulgakov wrote inspired by tyrannical censorship."

Dewhurst is aware of the writer's ambivalent position: "All he has is this play, about which he can't prove a point until it is acted."

Gaskill, too, is interested, says Dewhurst, in what the novel/play has to say about the creative process, to the extent that if he had been directing it for Joint Stock he "would have been tempted to do the whole thing in Maksudov's room. In other words, in his head." As it is there are scenes involving "real" characters, and others where what happens is fantasy.

Dewhurst claims that the whole was "hard to fit together", but the script flows with filmic seamlessness. Maksudov is part-narrator, addressing the audience direct and identified with Bulgakov, until the end. It is left to Maksudov to speculate about Bulgakov's ultimate intentions.

Dewhurst is no stereotypical northerner, although he is an ardent follower of Manchester United. In fact he rather misses the beach at Sydney. He returned to Britain in 1987 after several years in Australia, his wife's home country. That gave him a sharp perspective on the state of England. London he sees as "pathetic, wounded", the arts underfunded, the theatre still too exclusive.

His last piece for television, a *Van der Valk* film, was watched by 11,850,000 people and was, he notes, scarcely mentioned in the press. *Black Snow* will play to a few hundred at a time but is guaranteed serious attention. "I don't think the theatre is self-regarding," he says, "so much as lost in thought about how to get even as many as the 50,000 tacked on to that television viewing figure to come along to see the show."

His comments, forceful in themselves, are delivered quietly and with humour and more than once he says of the process of writing: "When you're young, you think you know all the answers; now I don't know anything about it."

- Black Snow *opens at the Cottesloe, National Theatre, London SE1 (071-928 2252) tomorrow night.*

BRIEFING

Ever-president

THEY may as well turn the streets of Dallas into a permanent film set. The life and death of John F. Kennedy, already the subject of countless television documentaries and mini-series, is now to be illuminated by no fewer than three feature films. Oliver Stone will turn from one Sixties hero — Jim Morrison in *The Doors* — to another, when he makes *JFK*. The much-Oscared Kevin Costner plays Jim Garrison, the district attorney who investigated Kennedy's murder. Propaganda Films, which made David Lynch's *Wild At Heart*, is currently casting *Ruby*, about Lee Harvey Oswald's assassin, Jack Ruby. John Mackenzie (of *The Long Good Friday*) will direct that. And A & M Films is pursuing a project based on Don DeLillo's book, *Libra*, which focuses on Oswald.

Sister's turn

WHY were there no accomplished women composers before our century? The feminist theory — that men suppressed them — may receive a boost this Sunday when a recently discovered string quartet by Felix Mendelssohn's sister, Fanny, receives its British première, played by the La Roche Quartet in the Octagon Chapel, Norwich. Fanny is believed to have written more than 400 chamber works and songs; only a small proportion were ever published. Yet contemporaries spoke of her compositions as surpassing even her brother's. Only social conventions prevented her from following him into the music profession.

Rewarding talent within

ROYAL Ballet soloist Jonathan Burrows has won the Frederick Ashton Choreographic Award, which was set up in 1982 to encourage the development of choreographic talent within the Royal Ballet and the Birmingham Royal Ballet. Using his own group of dancers, Burrows has created several small-scale works which have been presented at venues around London, although not at Covent Garden. The prize of £1,500 will be put towards the production costs of a new work by Burrows.

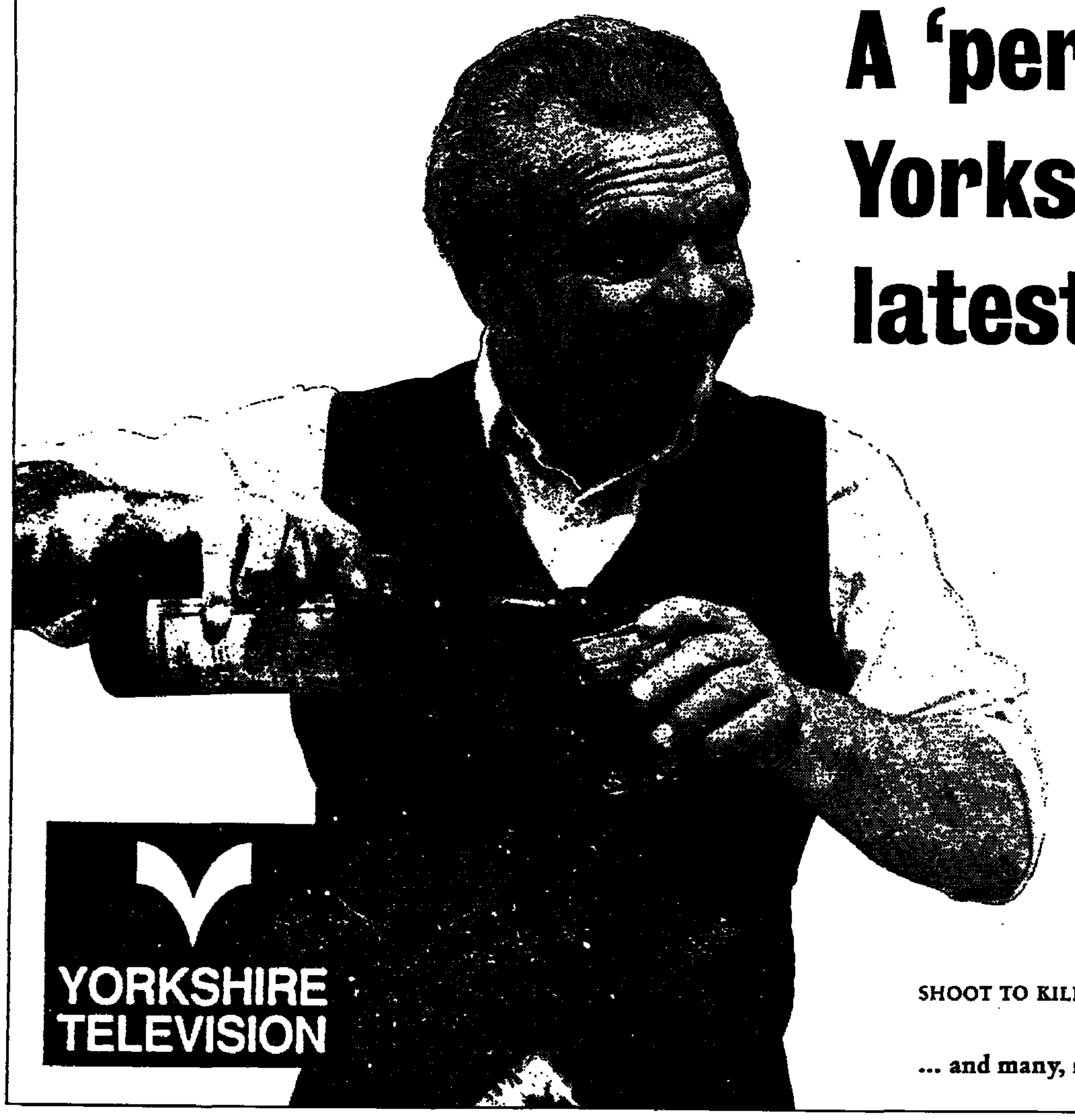
Taking the air

Helen Terry: now a television researcher

A NEW popular music television show, *Friday at the Dome*, takes to the air on Channel 4 at 11pm on May 3. Presented by Scottish comedian Craig Ferguson and Irish disc-jockey Dave Fanning, the programme is spoken of as a "celebration" of live music right across the pop/rock spectrum. The show's researcher is a former singer with Boy George's Culture Club, Helen Terry, who enjoyed a solo hit with "Love Lies Lost" in 1984. She follows in the footsteps of folk singer Andy White, who worked as a researcher on *Wogan*, and Jake Burns, vocalist with Stiff Little Fingers, who became a producer at Radio 1.

Last chance . . .

LEWD, loud and led by a 36-year-old man who still dresses in schoolboy blazer and shorts, AC/DC finishes its UK tour with dates at NEC, Birmingham (021 780 4133) tonight, the Point, Dublin (0001 363633), on Friday and King's Hall, Belfast (0232 665225), on Saturday. The hardy Aussie perennials do not spare the horses in a two-hour spectacle of controlled noise-abuse featuring many of their best-loved anthems, including "Hells Bells", "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" and "Whole Lotta Rosie".



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GALLERIES

Executions of a summery nature

By today 12,000 works of art will have passed under the noses of the judges who will choose what is seen at the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition. Jane Hardy reports on a mammoth viewing

CHRIS HARRIS

"The 13-strong committee, including architects and sculptors, sit on dining chairs and watch the conveyor-belt of paintings pass by"

As innumerable flower paintings and dog paintings and even a portrait of Gorbachev went by, Anthony Green RA, principal hanger of the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition, spotted *something he liked*. Then demurred. "No, we can't have those hot-cross buns — there's a currant. It's too emotional." But perhaps hunger was clouding the critical faculty; this was just before the judging committee's break for coffee, biscuits and the traditional mixture of beef tea and sherry which fuels their enthusiasm for a *mammoth task*.

In spite of Green's idiosyncratic eye, word is that this great pro-amateur art show — this year entitled "Whose Show Is It Anyway?" — is going to be really contemporary this time. Last year, there was innovation, a bronze of a man attacking a television, and inevitable controversy. "It was much too *modern*," said *one* couple, who were bringing in their son's work for judgement (Anthony Tribe, who has sold to Prince Charles).

The 223rd summer exhibition may be equally contentious. The judging committee is more pro-Modernist than usual (Sandra Blow and Craigie Aitchison are on; *so too is sculptor* Anne Christopher); while Roger de Grey, the Royal Academy president, is negotiating to hang some modern masters alongside the *where-I-went-on-my-holiday* landscapes. Rumour suggests that a de Kooning may be among them, which would certainly offset the Frederick Gore effect.

That shift of emphasis clearly had not deterred Mr Peter Burt, a retired charity worker from Wolverhampton and one of the thousands of artists who submit work. He had paid £27 to put forward the maximum three paintings. As he unwrapped them from a blue blanket in the Academy vault last week, he talked about his love of art. "I rather like Monet and the Impressionists. There's something in their work which isn't appreciated at first sight." His work looked doubtful with a small d, rather than Doubtful which is academy jargon for possible. The 12,000 works are whittled down by the judges to around 3,000 Doubtfuls, of which approximately 1,200 are hung. Since Academicians are free to show six works each, only half the space goes to real outsiders.

> *'At the moment, the summer exhibition is a potted art history, representing nearly everything except ethnic art'*

Until 1903, the vault was even more crowded, as non-academicians were allowed to submit up to eight works to the "creative free-for-all". Jonathan Hoyle, a professional painter who used this phrase and brought in two pleasantly anaemic landscapes, likes his summer exhibition the way it is. "I'm not avant-garde, so the traditional feel doesn't bother me. Although the show has had a poor image, it provides one of the few opportunities for young painters to exhibit."

The precise amount of freedom in this free-for-all presents the Academy with its *greatest* dilemma: whether to leave the show as it is ("an indulgence", according to the president) or divide academicians from Sunday painters, as some critics and artists such as Sir Anthony Caro would prefer. Mention Caro's name to Roger de Grey or Anthony Green, and you receive a pained smile. "I was saddened he didn't join us, but he is probably not clubbable," said Green.

Caro in fact declined the honour of adding RA to his name last year, partly because he felt the standard of sculpture in the exhibition to be low. Roger de Grey is more sanguine about the snub, *particularly as he has* David Hockney ("he did a radio commercial for us") as an RA.

What is the answer to the quality-control problem? At the moment, the summer exhibition is a potted art history, representing nearly everything except ethnic art, which de Grey claims is not much good. De Grey's keenness to import 20th-century name painters as a standard within the show is one response to the regular *criticism. Alternating professionals* and amateurs is another idea, but one which de Grey opposes. "Our constitution stipulates that we have to show the best available contemporary work, wherever it comes from, and that's what we do. Anyway, most of the work entered is by professional artists."

That is true. As the paintings *whizzed by*, each gaining five seconds of real attention as it was placed by an RA student on the stool in front of the judges, some were recognised as by old friends. "Isn't that a Daphne Todd?" So perhaps separating sheep from goats is not so hard.

This year, though, it has been *more a question of* separating sheep from sheep. There is always a joke among judges and students about the "unconscious" theme of the work sent in. In the past it has been owls, dormice, front doors. This year it is sheep and pigs. Group and individual animal portraits have appeared; animal skulls have turned up in still life. Anthony Green, also on the hanging committee, said they would choose a *few* as Doubtful and hang the best in both pig and sheep categories.

Judging takes three days. The seven or eight eminent artists of the 13-strong committee, which includes architects and sculptors and changes annually, sit on dining-room chairs and watch the conveyor-belt of paintings pass by. Their gentle jibes — "a classic piece of overframing", said de Grey of a painterly pig's face surrounded by an ornate frame with shell effect — reveal unease about the mixture of good professional work and the amateur's picture of a lifetime.

But de Grey remains defiant. "I am not going to defend the show — it stands on its own," he said. And of course it does, in spite of regular vilification from critics such as Brian Sewell. Green claimed these attacks are "a twiglet to spank us with — but we like spanking". As Liam Thompson, an exhibitor for eight years, put it: "It may be *middle-class*, white and great for mums, but there isn't anything like the summer exhibition anywhere else."

● *The summer exhibition opens at the Royal Academy, Piccadilly (071-439 7438) on June 9.*

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Arleen Auger: soloist in the C Minor Mass

Decca's compact Mozart, skimming the *output from* K1 (*a* minuet he wrote when he was five) to K626 (the Requiem which was, of course, unfinished at his death), is an attractive proposition, especially when it takes the intriguing form of a year-by-year survey.

The decision to represent the operas by extracts (usually ensembles, which is a plus point) was perhaps unavoidable: otherwise the full scope *of Mozart's music* could not be suggested, as sometimes it is here within a single volume (the trawl of *1778*, for instance, produces the Oboe Concerto, the "Paris" Symphony, the dramatic Sonatas *in E minor* for violin and in A minor for piano, and the grand concert aria for an *Alcestis*).

There is also a good range of old and new recordings, including some that *have* not been previously released. Among these is an outstanding account — at once nimble and radiant, fresh and sensuous — of the C minor Mass by the Winchester Cathedral choristers and the Academy of Ancient Music under Christopher Hogwood, with the soprano Arleen Auger as the principal soloist. Each record comes with an essay by H.C. Robbins Landon, but without texts or translations of the vocal works.

Meanwhile the massive *Philips* 180-disc complete collection moves ever onward, reaching now into distant Mozartian corners never previously explored by record producers. The set of quintets and quartets with wind soloists, for instance, has as an appendix an entire record of abandoned complete or fragmentary movements.

These include two failed finales testifying to his labours on the quartets he dedicated to Haydn; there are also the tantalising openings of a string trio and of string quintets in B flat and A minor, the latter being a particularly poignant and powerful possibility. All of these beginnings were drafted as far as the end of the exposition; the record producer and scholar Erik Smith has filled in missing parts.

Philip Wilby's interventions are more daring in versions of two unfinished scores offered with the violin concertos: the Concerto for piano and violin and the Sinfonia Concertante for string trio. Not only does he complete the projected first movements, but in the case of the double concerto he adds a slow movement and finale by orchestrating the relevant movements of the D major violin sonata.

The effect is *not* very convincing, and nor is the justification advanced for it. But it is certainly good to hear the drafted material: especially the spacious start of the triple concerto, which Wilby regards as an ancestor of the Sinfonia concertante for violin and viola and completes accordingly. The performances, though, stand a bit shamefacedly beside Szeryng's of the solo concertos.

One new performance of exceptional quality is that of the string-trio divertimento by Augustin Dumay, Gérard Caussé and Gary Hoffman. There is burning involvement in the playing, and a wide range of tone (from a very quiet, estranged, almost vibrato-free style, as at the opening of the first movement's development, to vibrant richness and force). Yet a quality of distance and austerity remains. There will always be these isolated peaks, along with the shelfloads of ordinary Mozart releases.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

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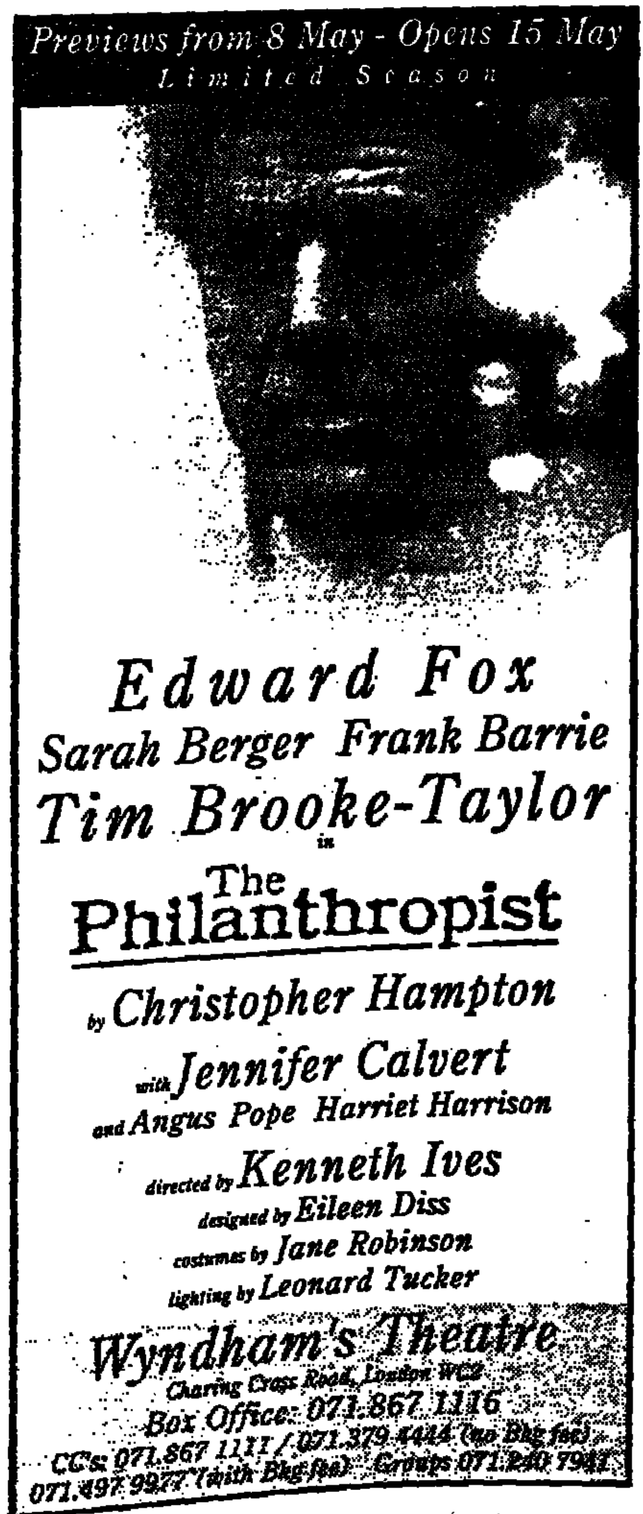
Theatre, TV, Music



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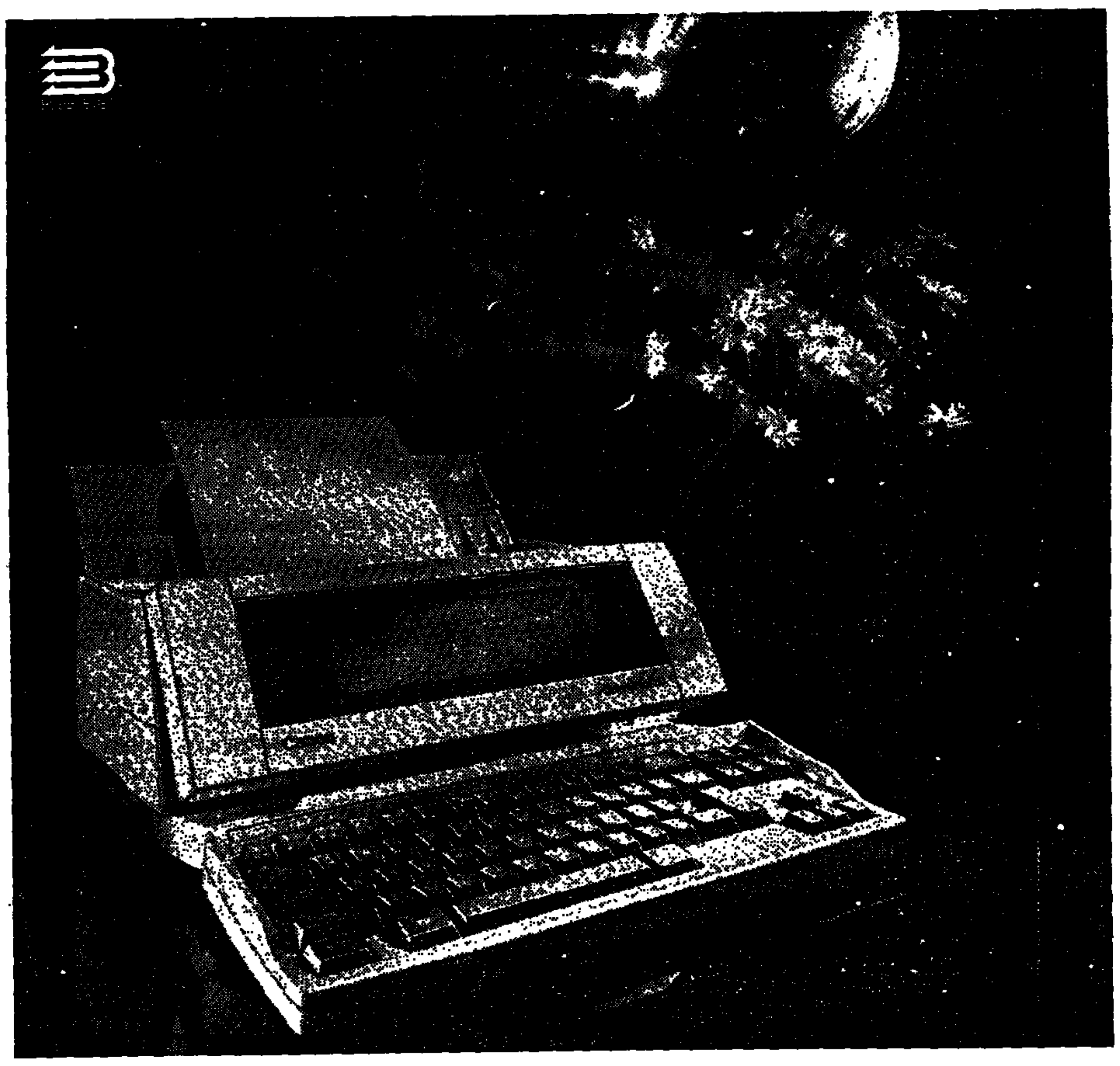

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Not paying — and pleased about it

Private schools say rising fees and recession do not deter parents: so why are some going over to the state sector? Jane Bidder reports

JULIAN HERBERT

Taking the community road: Barry McGuigan (plus three-year-old Jake) walks Danika and Blain to their state primary school in Kent

As pupils return to private schools this week after the Easter break — two weeks after their state contemporaries — some Volvos and Range Rovers will be missing from the parents' car-park.

While the Independent Schools Information Service (Isis) has reported a slight rise in pupils in the face of the recession. there is evidence at playground level of parents moving their children from private schools to the state sector.

Their reasons are not always financial. When Laura and Steven Appleton moved to Henley, Oxfordshire. last month. they switched their two older children, Anna (aged eight) and Mark (five), from a suburban prep to a state primary. "I'd always thought, rather snobbily, that you got what you paid for if you sent your children to a fee-paying school, but we were disappointed with one or two of the children's old teachers, who were not as patient as we had hoped," Mrs Appleton says. "Expense was not the primary factor: we'd make any sacrifice if we thought it was worth it. But moving areas was a good time to test out the state system, particularly as Henley is quite an affluent area."

> *'Expense was not the primary factor, but moving areas was a good time to test out the state system'*

The Appletons are "more than happy" with their decision. Class sizes average 24, with one teacher and up to three helpers. "The children love the slightly progressive teaching methods whereby different activities are carried out at different tables. My only criticism is that they seem to read less. Anna is also finding the work quite easy, but this might be because she is bright.

"I'd expected the teachers to be rather sceptical about us having paid for education," Mrs Appleton says, "but the only comment I have received was from one teacher who said she would be interested in seeing what kind of record books the old school had kept. She thought many private schools aren't as hot on records as their state counterparts."

Despite the hue and cry over cutbacks, the Appletons have not seen any evidence of them: there is no shortage of books or resources, and there are several extra-curricular activities. "The only thing I do miss are the old school's grounds and the lovely building." Mrs Appleton says. "The new one is modern, with a much smaller playground. But we have gained through a more rounded education and mixing with the community. The atmosphere is so good that the children have adjusted easily. And because they come home earlier, we have time to play in the garden or make tea together instead of them crashing out with exhaustion."

The total termly bill for both children at private school was about £2.000; so far at the state primary, the Appletons' biggest expense has been £3.50 for a school trip. "We will put the money we would have spent on fees towards holidays and enhancing life on a daily basis. When you get a good education like this, it doesn't seem worth paying for another kind."

Some private schools agree that the Appletons are not alone. Ampleforth College, a boys' school in Yorkshire, made six staff redundant this year, partly because of falling pupil numbers. And although the headmaster, Father Dominic Milroy, claims this is because parents choose to send their children to private schools nearer home, he has also helped up to 30 families who cannot afford the fees any more: "Often one of the parents has been made redundant, in which case we can put them in touch with charitable financial institutions."

However, David McMurray, the headmaster at Oundle school for boys in Northamptonshire, claims his school is more popular than ever, and that two new houses have had to be built to accommodate rising numbers. But he also believes the recession has made parents more critical of schools, and more street-wise in "assessing value for money".

Even those blessed with fame and fortune are becoming more astute in marking schools out of ten. Sandra McGuigan and her husband Barry, the boxer, moved their two children, Blain (seven) and Danika (five), from a pre-prep to the local village school when they bought a house in Kent nearly two years ago. "We would have spent the money on private education if we had thought it was necessary, but we were willing to save the expense because the local school was so good," says Mrs McGuigan, who is now on the PTA. "It's a very personal and informal school, with 115 children and five teachers, and has an excellent reputation in getting pupils through the 11-plus. I can think of at least ten other parents who have moved their children from fee-paying schools to this one simply because of that."

Another big advantage of defecting from the private sector, the McGuigans say, is becoming part of the community. "Now our two are at the village school, we all feel we belong. There's much less of the 'us and them' divide."

Academically, Mrs McGuigan says the school has been terrific for Blain: "His reading has come on in leaps and bounds because he was given simple books over and over again without any pressure. Consequently, he's more relaxed and articulate and I, too, have put less pressure on him to do well."

Mrs McGuigan believes standards in this particular school are as high as in its private rivals, although it lacks the facilities offered by fee-paying institutions. "Blain plays football and cricket only on the village green, and that depends on how many fathers come along to help out. Consequently, we spend quite a lot of time after school taking them to outside sports clubs. Nor are there any language lessons, although some mothers and I recently hired a French teacher to coach local children from our house. And we haven't got the wonderful science labs or computer room that we had."

Mrs McGuigan's role on the PTA has also brought home the meaning of cutbacks: "I wouldn't say we were short on textbooks but we certainly have to watch our budget, and we raise a lot of cash through jumble sales."

Like many other mothers, Mrs McGuigan reads every week to children in the school, while other parents help out generally in the classroom. "I'm not saying that all state schools are better than private ones," she says. "In fact, if your child is not very academic, a private school is more likely to pull him up to an acceptable level which he might not reach in the state system."

A trickle of custom from private to state does not surprise professional teaching bodies, such as the National Association of School Teachers. "Economic pressures are making it harder to find school fees, and some parents will sadly see an inability to pay as a step down in the world," says the association's spokesman, Nigel de Gruchy, who was delighted to hear of the McGuigans' and Appletons' approval of the state system. "Many other parents would be amazed at the good facilities on offer if they bothered to consider the other side."

David Hart, the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, believes that independent schools "now have to accept more intense competition from state schools thanks to the recession". He also suggests guidelines for parents about how to make the move to state education: "Ask the head what provision is made for children who are above average, and study work samples and examination results carefully. Visit a variety of schools in action and look at class sizes, books, equipment, discipline and pastoral care, to see how the school creates a caring community. That, after all, is what it is all about."

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GOOD news for all "Disgusteds": a new computer software package designed for dedicated complainers will be available in Britain soon. Speak Out Software, of Houston, Texas, has produced a program containing the names and addresses of leading politicians, union officials and chief executives in the United States, together with advice on writing a short, sharp, shock letter. Speak Out's president, Ken Rosemarin, says a British edition should be out in about 30 days. The company will send the program, for either IBM pcs and compatibles or Apple Macintosh versions, to the UK for $51.95 including postage. Contact Speak Out Software, PO Box 272 705, Houston, Texas 77277 (0101 713 664 1005).

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هكذا في الأصل

Looking for a place in the country

Challengers are lining up to bid for a slice of the *Country Life* pie, **Andrew Lycett** reports

Yet another green-wellied marksman is taking a pot shot at *Country Life*, one of the plumpest cash cows in the publishing meadow. Last week Francis Fulford, a Devon landowner, announced plans for a new title, *Countryweek*. Together with his business partner, Julie Spencer, a former editor of *The Field*, he is raising £750,000 (from a Business Expansion Scheme) for a magazine which aims to have a circulation of 40,000 within a year, and advertising revenue of £1.1 million.

That is still a long way short of the £14.4 million which IPC's *Country Life* netted last year, according to figures from Media Expenditure Analysis Ltd (Meal). And 1990 was a bad year for that magazine's principal income, its glossy high-value property advertisements. In 1989 the total was more than £16 million, making it one of the top ten British magazine earners.

The message is clear. There is gold in those rolling acres. And ever since the Thatcher boom years, when well-heeled babyboomers forsook London for Wiltshire, magazine publishers have been looking at ways of getting their hands on it.

First, they need to disturb the century-old market dominance of *Country Life*, a weekly, and *The Field*, a monthly. Few sectors of the publishing market can boast the pedigree of these two titles. The former dates back to 1897, the latter to 1853, when it was founded by R.S. Surtees, creator of Jorrocks. Neither has a vast circulation (about 50,000 for *Country Life* and 40,000 for *The Field*). But both enjoy comfortable niche positions and inspire plenty of imitators.

Miss Spencer is not the first former editor to think she could do better. In 1987 Marcus Binney, a former editor of *Country Life*, poached the magazine's advertisement director and set up *Landscape*, a glossy monthly which concentrated particularly on heritage and the environment. It lasted barely a year before merging with *Country Times*, a new launch from Michael Heseltine's Haymarket Publishing, edited by Simon Courtauld, also a former editor of *The Field*.

Country Times just survived into the new decade, before being swallowed up by *The Field* which, since Miss Spencer's departure last February, has been edited by Jonathan Young, former editor of *Shooting Times*.

Messrs Binney and Courtauld did not stray far from the established countryside publishing formula — articles about stately piles and fine art if *Country Life* is your model, about fly-fishing and hedgerows if *The Field*.

IPC's *Country Homes and Interiors*, first published in 1986, and National Magazine's *Country Living* took another approach, targeting the female half of the new generation of first-time rustics. *Country Living*, set up in 1985, initially as a biannual supplement to *Good Housekeeping*, has articles on paragliding and the bucolic lifestyles of personalities such as Sir Terence Conran, skilfully mixed with more traditional green-tinged features. The result is very successful. *Country Living* now sells 176,000 copies each month and pulls in advertising revenue of nearly £4 million a year. *Country Homes and Interiors* sells 90,000, with advertising revenue of nearly £2 million.

JULIAN HERBERT

Hoping for rural gold: Julie Spencer, once of *The Field*, now launching *Countryweek*

An alternative approach to countryside publishing will emerge next week when Gerry Malone, former editor of *The Sunday Times* in Scotland, finalises his purchase of the 25,000 strong membership arm of the Letchworth-based Country Gentleman's Association (CGA). Included in the deal is the right to publish *Country*, the association's monthly magazine. The magazine was previously published by Hamfield, which went into receivership following its venture into television listings with *TV Plus*. The intention is to keep *Country* a closed circulation magazine.

Back in the "real" publishing world, competitors speak respectfully of *Countryweek's* "bravery" in launching now. However, Mr Fulford, the new magazine's managing director, argues that the recession will force the magazine to keep its costs tight.

He says *Countryweek* will be topical, reporting political and economic news relevant to the countryside. Mr Fulford is property correspondent of *The Field*, with all the estate agent contacts that means. *Country Life's* coveted display advertising income could finally come under pressure.

MEDIA WATCH

Pressure point

WITH three weeks to go before Channel 3 licence applications must be handed in, Yorkshire Television has run into trouble with some independent producers in its region. The company has asked the producers to write letters supporting its bid but, according to Paul Berriff, who made *Animal Squad* for the BBC, it has promised in return only to "put names forward" for future work. Frank Hasson, the deputy director of the Independent Programme Producers Association, has complained to Yorkshire and advised independents not to send the letters. Meanwhile, Yorkshire is denying any suggestion that it is putting unfair pressure on producers.

New order

UNESCO is to abandon its controversial media policy, known as the "New World Information Order", which was seen as one of the main reasons both Britain and the United States dropped out of the organisation in the early Eighties. The policy was intended to force the media of the developed world to present the third world in a favourable light, even if this meant interfering with the free flow of information. Western countries complained that the policy was tantamount to censorship, and Unesco has relented, announcing yesterday that it is to devise a new media policy.

Frankly unsurprising

NOT surprisingly, consumers are more influenced by the "objective views" of journalists than by advertising and direct marketing when they decide what goods to buy, a report on the public relations industry by Research International (RI) has found. Roger Banks, a director of RI, says the findings show that companies should spend more money getting their message across to journalists through public relations than on advertising.

Silence, please

Roy Greenslade

FORMER editors and senior employees of Mirror Group Newspapers have never spoken publicly about the reasons for their departures or their relationship with the proprietor, Robert Maxwell. If the termination agreement signed by Roy Greenslade, dismissed last month as the editor of the *Daily Mirror*, is any indication, then perhaps it is because they have been bound not to. Mr Greenslade could receive his compensation payment only if he signed the agreement, which he understood stopped him from talking for six months. It transpires the agreement prevents him from *ever* saying anything that could bring directors of Mirror Group Newspapers or associated companies into disrepute. Unable to work for a rival newspaper for six months, Mr Greenslade says he has a lot of time on his hands. Nevertheless, apparently he has turned down a six-figure salary job on a television programme, saying he prefers newspapers.

Funds for radio

BBC Network Radio has taken the unprecedented step of setting up a £250,000 fund to commission independent radio productions. David Hatch, the managing director of BBC Radio, says he hopes the fund will "kickstart" the infant independent radio sector. The money will be available to producers wanting to work for any of the five BBC radio networks.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

Women reclaim their space

Feminism killed the women's pages. Now an American newspaper is reviving them

FOR the past two decades America's newspapers have regarded the words "women's pages" with the same disdain as "housewife" or "air hostess".

All main dailies scrapped them, although they continued to run material of special interest to women under other names — such as "style".

On April 28, the venerable *Chicago Tribune* is taking a leap into the past or the future, depending on how you look at it, by launching a Sunday section called *Womanews*. The venture is being watched closely by a publishing industry struggling to attract younger customers as newspaper readers desert to television and other media.

The *Tribune*'s editors, highly sensitive to the implications of their step, say they are convinced by their research and a four-year experiment with a Sunday feature section that women want articles on their interests and female role models in their newspaper.

Colleen Dishon, the *Tribune* associate editor who has created the section, says it responds to a powerful shift in attitudes among American women over the past few years. They have won enough self-confidence to say "I don't care what you call it, I'm proud to be a woman", she says. "It's probably the most exciting thing I've seen, and I've been around a long time."

American women seem to be reverting to an older idea of womanhood, although it is "not exactly a return to the way things were", she says. "Most of the women we serve are women who work — they have to work — but there is a kind of nostalgia. You see women at a business meeting needle-pointing. Women are remembering maybe how mother had it or maybe how they thought they had it."

Although the recession has shaken out some titles, the market is flooded with glossy women's magazines on everything from home entertaining to current affairs and fashion.

Recent items in the experimental *Womanews* page of the newspaper's features section included "Women have an inherent investing edge", "Curing closet [wardrobe] clutter" and "Men's dens: a place of their own".

Ms Dishon believes she may be starting a trend, but not everyone is impressed. "It's surprising," says Maxwell King, the executive editor of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. "I thought we moved away from those things 20 years ago."

CHARLES BREMNER

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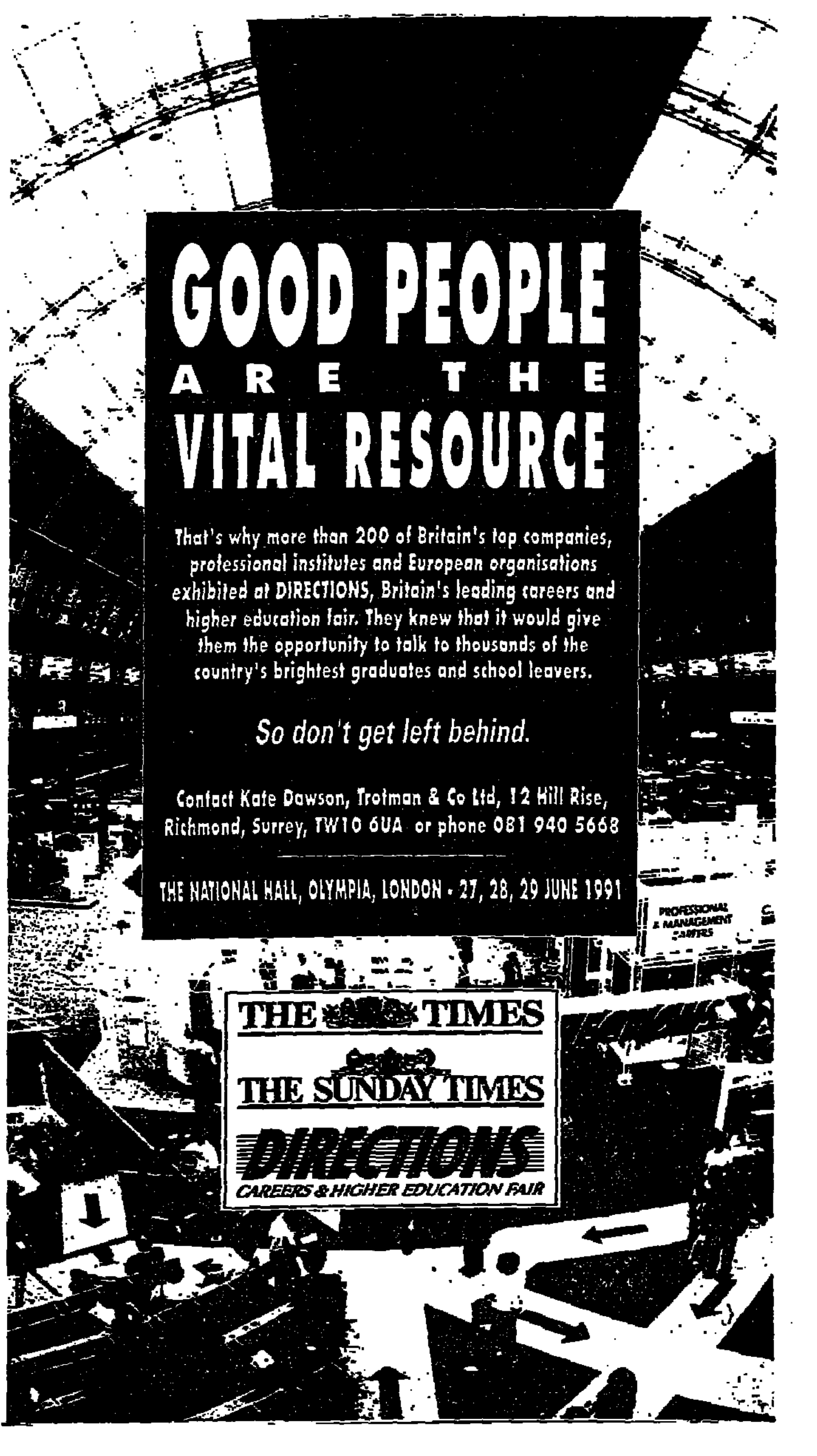

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Conor Cruise O'Brien

Moscow bares its teeth as army star rises

Smiles for the West: public insult and blackmail for 'aggressive' Japanese

Mr Gorbachev's visit to Japan last week has left a sour taste behind it. It was not just that he tried to obtain large-scale economic aid *without* relinquishing the Japanese islands seized by Stalin at the end of the second world war. The Japanese are also uneasy about the implications of such a negotiating position: they feel they are being blackmailed. One Japanese said: "The bear is turning its cuddly face to the west, its ugly face to Asia."

I was not inclined to take this altogether seriously until I listened to one of the Russian speeches at the assembly of the International Press Institute, which I have been attending in Kyoto this week. The speaker was Leonid Mlechin, deputy editor-in-chief of *New Times*, a weekly Soviet news magazine published in many languages and aimed at a mainly foreign readership. Mr Mlechin is a very young man, a child of glasnost, with an impressive record as an investigative journalist in the heyday of glasnost. A Soviet-watcher described him to me as "an efficient opportunist", and this I readily believe. He spoke with the ringing confidence of one close to the corridors of power who knows that his words will have approbation from on high. And his speech, from beginning to end, was one long, studied insult to his Japanese hosts.

Mlechin: nastier and more ominous than any cold war speech

The topic under discussion was Japan as a world power. Mr Mlechin began by referring to Japan's aggression in the second world war, and went on to suggest that Japan is again displaying its old aggressive tendencies — this time by the use of economic power — which threaten other nations just as much as the old militarism. He told the Japanese not to forget that they had been defeated by the Soviet Union (he did not refer to any other powers that might have had a hand in the matter). He warned them not to speak as if they were representative of Asia. They had nothing in common with other Asians, he said, except the colour of their skins. Other Asians remembered Japan's past acts of aggression against them, and resented Japan's present economic dominance.

In a conclusion not easily to be reconciled with the trend of these insults, Mr Mlechin ridiculed the notion that Japan might be a world power. The Soviet Union was a world power; Japan was not. The Soviet Union had nuclear weapons; Japan did not. Then he came out with this enigmatic admonition: "It is time for Japan to repay its debts."

There were scores of Japanese in the auditorium and two on the platform throughout this exercise in Japan-bashing. I looked carefully around me for any sign of feeling on any Japanese face. There was none. The truth of one national stereotype was conclusively demonstrated. Inscrutable is what they are supposed to be, and inscrutable is exactly what they proved under this severe provocation.

When Mr Mlechin's tirade was over, the two Japanese panellists were asked for their comments. They were terse and restrained. Kazuo Chiba, who until recently was Japanese ambassador to Britain, said: "This is the first time I have heard a *non-Communist* Soviet attack on Japan." Yoichi Funabashi, senior writer for the Japanese daily newspaper, *Asahi Shimbun*, said: "That was a military-oriented comment."

I fear that "military-oriented" is the *mot juste*. Mr Mlechin's statement was calculated to please the Soviet military establishment, which is now in the political ascendant. Mr Mlechin is one child of glasnost who knows which way the political wind is blowing. Some believe that when Mr Gorbachev planned his visit to Tokyo, he intended to give back some of those islands, but that the Soviet military command vetoed the idea. Mr Mlechin's speech, with its hint of nuclear blackmail, is compatible with this hypothesis.

Word soon went round at the assembly that Mr Mlechin's senior Soviet colleagues at the Kyoto conference deeply deplored his language. I am sure they did, and not just out of consideration for the carefully-dissimulated sensibilities of their Japanese hosts. They are from the "school of Shevardnadze", and the language of their younger colleague must have been a sharp reminder that that school does not exactly represent the wave of the future in the Soviet Union.

A distinguished member of that school, Alexander Yakovlev, formerly economic adviser to Mr Gorbachev, has just addressed the Kyoto assembly. He described himself as "an optimist", but if so, optimism in today's Soviet Union appears to be a condition bordering on despair. His speech was full of images of things breaking down and falling apart. It is true that he sought to dispel these images, but his attempt carried no conviction.

On the other hand, his younger colleague, Mr Mlechin, had the gusto and the truculence of one who speaks for rising, ruthless forces. The cold war as we know it is over, but I fear something worse may be on the way. I have heard hundreds of cold war speeches in my time, but I have never heard anything nearly as nasty or as ominous in that line as the language of that ambitious child of glasnost against his hosts in Kyoto this week.

A partly political prince

Mary Ann Sieghart asks if the Prince of Wales's remarks on education overstep the unwritten constitutional rules. Is he trying to carve a new role for the monarchy?

Labour must be tempted to put up posters in the next general election campaign bearing the message: "In France, Italy and Belgium every child under five receives nursery education from the state. Here, less than half our children have that right." They could be illustrated with a picture of the author: not Jack Straw, but the Prince of Wales. Yet again, the prince has become embroiled in politics, this time over the state of British schools.

At a private lunch in a newspaper office about five years ago, Robin Janvrin, Buckingham Palace's press officer, was in despair. Every time the prince opened his mouth, newspapers criticised him for being political. What cause, he asked the journalists, could Charles safely espouse without bringing down the wrath of their colleagues?

"Trees," suggested one, looking for a subject as far removed from politics as possible. The hint was taken. But even trees turned out to be political; the environment, until that time ignored by the major parties, was just about to leap onto the agenda of both. The prince's utterances were inevitably scrutinised for any hint of partiality. As the concerns of politics widen, it becomes increasingly difficult for Prince Charles to escape them.

What is he to do? Were he like his great-great-grandfather, Edward VII, the other long-serving Prince of Wales, he might have decided to lead a playboy life, hunting, shooting and painting, blissfully free from worry about the future of the world. But Charles is not like that. "I could quite easily happily decide to lead a much quieter existence, and make speeches which were purely replete with platitudes. But I don't think that's going to get anybody anywhere," he told Selina Scott in a 1989 television interview.

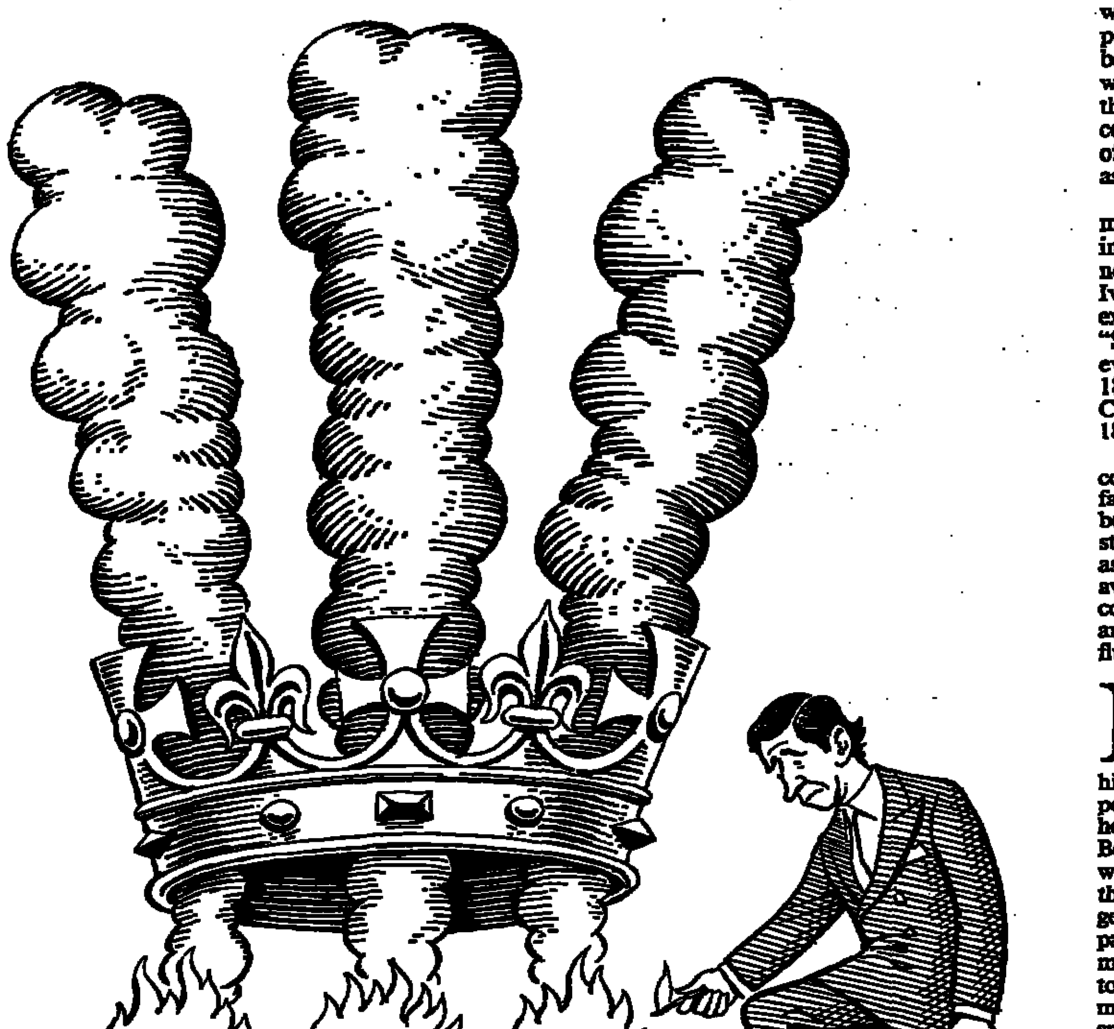
He went on: "I'm not stopping [talking about the environment] just because it's become a political issue ... I'm going to go on even more. Now, at last, perhaps I might be taken seriously."

This urge to change the world, "the feeling that one must justify one's existence" in his words, repeatedly comes up against palace advice to remain above politics. He drafts his own speeches and tries them out on trusted advisers, before redrafting the more controversial passages. When he keeps in such a passage, it is "because I actually believe that it will strike a chord". What strikes a chord with some people inevitably alienates others. On these occasions, which have become more common over the past decade, the prince comes perilously close to joining the political fray.

Monday's outburst about the teaching of English was the most political intervention he has made, on a subject which, with the economy, could be the most disputed at the next election. The passages about the lack of money available to schools were provocative, and must have been intended as such.

The prince justified his strong language in chord-striking terms. He described himself as "pleading for a restoration of sanity". He said it was "high time that the bluff of the so-called 'experts' was called. If our newspapers conducted a survey amongst their readers, the silent majority might finally be able to say what it really thought on this subject."

Whence comes Prince Charles's urge to speak out for the "silent majority"? (Most of his diatribes are aimed, on behalf of the common man, at professional establishments, be they architects, doctors or teachers.) He is a restless man, seemingly ill at ease with himself. "Time and again in Shakespeare's characters we recognise elements of ourselves," he said in Monday's speech. He also admitted that he had seen Kenneth Branagh's film of Henry V at least three times. "... What infinite heart's ease/Must kings neglect, that private men enjoy!" laments King Harry. "And what have kings that privates have not too,/Save ceremony, save general ceremony?"



> 'He could have decided to lead a playboy life blissfully free from worry about the future. But he is not like that'

Brought up by conscientious parents to be fully aware of the responsibilities and constraints of his future life, the young Charles seemed to have been born grown-up. Early photographs show a child's face wreathed in an adult's thoughtfulness. The royal family had been badly scarred by the abdication of Edward VIII, and Charles must have been under great pressure not to become a playboy prince. He knew he would have to be serious.

Yet pulling him in the other direction was the spirit of the times. As Charles approached adolescence, the Sixties reached their full flowering. Any other teenager might have grown his hair long and smoked pot before marrying respectably and becoming a Conservative-voting chartered accountant. Perhaps because he never had such an outlet, his alternative, anti-establishment streak has remained in middle age, and he seems still to be a natural supporter of the old SDP.

The prince's views are essentially Utopian. He would like to see a Britain free from class and racial prejudice, with power devolved to individuals and small communities. The evils of the world would be tackled through greater social and environmental responsibility. Overarching all is an attempt to prevent people losing touch with their spirituality. The philosophy is attractive, but curious for an unelected future monarch to hold: would not a completely meritocratic society end up as a republic?

A late developer academically, the Prince's cerebral side was first succoured at Cambridge, where his principal mentor was Rab Butler, then master of Trinity. But his wider values have come mostly from the teachings of Sir Laurens van der Post, the intellectual he never had for a father, who introduced him to Jung, the importance of collective myth, and the idea, in Sir Laurens's words, that "something like the Bushman, the first man, remains alive in us all", in "some basement of the European spirit". It needs only to be sought, though in Prince Charles' view, very few of us bother to seek it, and modern society conspires to make the quest harder.

The philosophy may sound esoteric (or to intellectual snobs, adolescent), but when he expresses it in concrete argument — the man in the street versus the monstrous building in the street — most people agree with him. The professionals are infuriated, as he intends. He has the same michievous streak as his father, though his targets are different.

The establishments he aims at would despise him less were he completely philistine. His possession of a little knowledge which he displays in middlebrow tastes produces the same contempt in arty intellectuals as Tory grandees felt for the lower-middle class Margaret Thatcher. The architect James Stirling, one of the architects the prince has singled out for criticism, has resorted to patronising him: "I don't think he can distinguish between good and bad modern architecture." Richard Rogers, another *bête noire* of the prince, is full frontal: he accused Charles of "violating the principles of a constitutional monarchy".

Is he right? The heir to the throne lives in a constitutional void. Walter Bagehot has no words of advice for him. The position of the Queen is not much better delineated. When Bagehot wrote *The English Constitution*, the classic reference book for constitutional scholars, the object of his analysis did not exist, except as a bundle of precedents.

Traditionally, 20th-century monarchs have tried to appear independent of party politics, but nowhere is such a duty laid down. Ivor Jennings, a constitutional expert, said of Queen Victoria: "She was a clog on the activity of every Liberal government after 1841 and a stimulus to every Conservative government after 1868."

George III, who is said, disconcertingly, to be Prince Charles' favourite ancestor (perhaps, because he was "misunderstood"?) was described by Bagehot as "a meddling maniac ... an awful instance of the dangers of constitutional royalty ... He was an obstinate and an evil influence."

Prince Charles is clearly not an evil influence. The fact that his views are so middle-of-the-road allows him to get away with being more political than may be wise. Were he to agree passionately with Tony Benn rather than David Owen, he would be more dangerous. And in this decade of political convergence between the two main parties, he may be able to be even more outspoken without seeming to take sides. Both parties' spokesmen seized on the education speech, claiming support for their own views.

But in the end, the royal family exists only on sufferance. The prince accepts this: "Something as curious as the monarchy won't survive unless you take account of people's attitudes. I think it can be a kind of elective institution. After all, if people don't want it, they won't have it." In January 1990, Mori found that 69 per cent of people thought Britain would still have a monarchy in 50 years' time. Only a year later, that figure had fallen 14 points to 55 per cent.

The prince may have decided to say all he wants to say now, in the knowledge that once he becomes king, he will have to stop. Or he may, by then, be so addicted to the stir his comments create that he will not be able to return to reticence.

He is known to be frustrated by watching his friends achieve professional success while he struggles to justify his existence. Perhaps he intends to carve out a new role for himself as monarch. His predecessors each approached the job differently, so the institution need not be static. We have become used to confusing this Queen's own views with traditional precepts simply because she has reigned for nearly 40 years.

As the British establishment becomes more professional, less aristocratic, King Charles III may see his role as to stand up for the common man, to encourage his passive subjects to become active citizens, to fight the planners, doctors, architects, businessmen and teachers who try to wield power over them. No opposition party will perform this task; they are too bound up with the interest groups. The new king may win his popularity by becoming a one-man opposition against the professional barons of today.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

Staying in Normandy recently, we decided to drive for an hour to take a look at the Bayeux Tapestry. It is something that has been floating around somewhere in the back of my head ever since I was eight. At my prep school, both French masters, Major Watt (lean, moustachioed) and his successor, Major Pearse (rotund, bearded), were very keen on it, believing — wrongly, as it turned out — that it would kindle a love of the French tongue which would endure way beyond Common Entrance.

Since that time, not a year can have passed without my having some vague reminder that I had not yet seen the Bayeux Tapestry. Pictures abound on French ferries, in French airports and in French guidebooks of those instantly recognisable little men in their helmets, all paddling away in a manner so exaggerated as to suggest that they knew the beady eye of the *tapissier* was upon them.

We arrived in Bayeux around lunchtime. It is an old and very pretty town, decked high and low with scenes from the tapestry: skirmishes and animals and weeping women and, of course, those little men in their helmets, all paddling away.

How happy my arrival in Bayeux would have made my old French teachers, for a few hours before I had been reminding myself of the glories of the Bayeux Tapestry by reading two guidebooks, both off-putting, though in different ways. *The Rough Guide to France* is too chippy, while *Normandy*, by Patricia Fenn, is too chirpy. "Just about every coastal town has its war museum," says the *Rough Guide*, "tending as a rule to shy away from the unbearable reality of war in favour of *Boy's Own* style heroics."

Patricia Fenn, on the other hand, is all gasps and exclamation marks ("What a gem!") Both agreed, however, that the Bayeux Tapestry has a timeless appeal.

We arrived at Bayeux, walked round the cathedral and decided to have lunch in a restaurant before tackling the tapestry. Over a kir, I read out interesting details about the tapestry so as to whet our appetites for the afternoon's trip.

"The *Rough Guide* says that 'visits are well planned and highly atmospheric, if somewhat exhausting'," I said. "'In the first room there is a slide show, in the next room there is a reproduction of the original with a detailed commentary, in the third room there's a film, in the fourth room there are souvenirs and postcards, and then in the last room there is the tapestry itself'."

Lest this might all sound a little arduous, I turned to the enthusiastic Fenn. "She says 'The tapestry alone takes half a day to do it justice ... don't think of trying to fit it in in less than two hours, and that's pushing it'."

"So if we get there by two," said my wife, as we finished our first course, "we should be out by four."

"Oh, certainly no later than four," I said.

"In fact," said my wife, halfway through our main course, "we could probably do it by 3.30 if we missed the film."

"Or even three," I said, "if we skipped the slides."

"And I can't see much point in a roomful of reproductions," she added.

It was about ten to two when we finished our main course. Memories of prep-school lessons came flooding back.

"You know," I said, "in a funny sort of way, I feel as if I have already *seen* the Bayeux Tapestry."

"I wonder," said my wife, "if it's all that different in real life."

"I shouldn't have thought so," I said, as a *crêpe* arrived. "And, now that I think about it, I never really liked it in the books."

"No," said my wife. "All those silly little stick men."

" — and endless rowing boats."

" — and badly drawn horses."

" — nevertheless, a timeless appeal."

"Oh, yes indeed, a timeless appeal. Another Calvados?"

At 2.30 we were wondering if we could manage the whole thing in under half an hour. By ten to three, we had decided that ten minutes really wasn't enough to do it justice. As we drove away, as merry as larks, I breathed a sigh of relief that it was no longer 1966, and that I was not due the next day to stand before the class and tell Major Watt or Major Pearse in faltering French what I had done *en vacances*, and what, alas, I had failed to do.

THE TIMES DIARY

For Queen and Carey

Those puzzled by the Queen's absence from Dr Carey's enthronement as Archbishop of Canterbury last Friday will have been reassured by his presence at the state banquet for Lech Walesa at Windsor last night.

As head of the Church of England, the Queen, it might be assumed, would consider it her duty to attend the enthronement. Many of those present and thousands more who saw the ceremony on television interpreted her absence as a sign of royal disapproval of Dr Carey's evangelist tendencies. Last night the new archbishop was happy to put the record straight. The Queen was following long precedent: no monarch has attended an enthronement for more than 100 years.

"There is no constitutional reason why she should not go," says Buckingham Palace. "She could have attended if she had wished. Her role was simply to approve the prime minister's choice."

Instead, in a ceremony that went unreported at the time, Dr Carey went to Windsor four days before his enthronement, knelt on a footstool before the Queen and raised his hands with the palms together in front of her. She placed her hands around his while Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, pronounced the oath. Dr John Waine, Clerk of the Closet and Bishop of Chelmsford, then presented a Bible, which Dr Carey kissed. "The whole ceremony took less than five minutes," says a palace spokesman.

Until not so long ago, says Lambeth Palace, archbishops themselves skipped the enthronement ceremony and sent a dean in their place. On at least one occasion the dean also decided he had more important business and sent a stand-in stand-in. Archbishop Sumner in 1848 was the first in many years to bother to turn up in person. "In those days Canterbury was not such a desirable place," explains Lambeth Palace.

● *The plight of Beirut hostage John McCarthy will be aired again today when the Irish prime minister, Charles Haughey, meets the Iranian foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, in Dublin. With hopes for his release increasing, McCarthy's employer, Worldwide Television News, confirmed yesterday he is still on the staff, and will remain so. "His family is putting most of his salary into a high-interest account," says WTN's Ken Coyte, "so it should be quite a substantial amount when he comes home."*

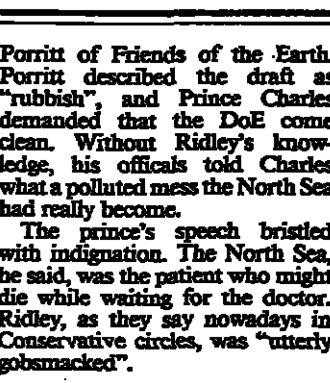
Royal rigour

Whatever errors critics may claim to detect whenever Prince Charles sounds off, no-one can accuse him of not doing his homework. Shortly before opening the second international conference on the protection of the North Sea in 1987, he received a draft script prepared by Nicholas Ridley's officials at the environment department. Suspicious of their picture of the government's success in preventing pollution, he called in Jonathon Porritt of Friends of the Earth. Porritt described the draft as "rubbish", and Prince Charles demanded that the DoE come clean. Without Ridley's knowledge, his officals told Charles what a polluted mess the North Sea had really become.

The prince's speech bristled with indignation. The North Sea, he said, was the patient who might die while waiting for the doctor. Ridley, as they say nowadays in Conservative circles, was "utterly gobsmacked".

Wet excuses

The Tate Gallery is under renewed attack from Turner devotees over the shortcomings of the Clore extension. Dr Selby Whittingham, editor of a journal about Turner, says he predicted a decade ago that the gallery, which opened in 1987, would leak. "What's more, the lighting doesn't work. The rest of the Tate looks new in comparison to the Clore." Although the leaking roof, which led to the evacuation of seven Turners, no longer lets in the elements, repair work is still under way. "More work is needed to stop this sort of thing happening again," says the Tate.



Was it painted in situ?
GED.

But the gallery seems to have learnt a lesson from British Rail in the art of making excuses. "It is not a design fault. It is a fault of the weather," says a spokesman. "It has been the wrong type."

Loyaller than thou

As Britain's top industrialists yesterday joined the increasingly vociferous calls on the government to preserve Mrs Thatcher's legacy, another influential Tory think-tank has been caught in the crossfire between devotees of the former prime minister and John Major's supporters.

Leading Thatcherite economists led by Patrick Minford have demanded the removal of Graham Mather as general director of the Institute of Economic Affairs after he publicly rebuked them for criticising John Major's economic policy in a letter to *The Times*. So far the IEA's trustees have backed Mather, who is close to the prime minister, because they want the group to keep its lines open to Downing Street.

Minford says: "I speak my mind openly and aggressively. Graham Mather and I have had a robust exchange of views. I think the IEA can cope with the disagreement." Another IEA source says: "It all got very heated, with people going round waving axes and declaring others guilty of heresy. But calm seems to have returned."

There is no evidence that Mrs Thatcher herself has been directly involved in any of the arguments conducted by those claiming to be acting under her inspiration. But while her brooding presence remains in the Commons, no-one expects the present truce to last. Yesterday's attacks at the Institute of Directors convention may indicate that the ceasefire is over almost before it has begun.

SOUND AND SENSIBLE

John Major and Michael Heseltine have at last begun the cleaning of Margaret Thatcher's Augean stables. They have abolished the poll tax, proposed a far fairer and more efficient local tax system, and suggested a reform to local democracy which could, if enacted, reverse the constitutional centralism that was such a prominent feature of the public sector in the 1980s.

While the dithering that has preceded poll-tax abolition has been painful to watch, the delay may have done something to ease the change down the throats of party loyalists. The "council tax" put forward by Mr Heseltine yesterday is sound in its essentials. It is a tax on the value vested in residential property, a modest form of wealth tax supplementing taxes on income and expenditure. Such fiscal pluralism is a good thing. The tax will be mildly progressive and will be an incentive to the economical use of living space. The government has avoided the twin traps of rating properties by type rather than by value and of including more than a token "people element" as a sop to poll-tax enthusiasts. This is not the "son of poll tax" and Labour's Bryan Gould was silly yesterday to imply otherwise.

The banding system for valuing properties is a sensible resolution of conflicting arguments. Though a good case can be made for a simple return to the rates, there is also a case for a less fluid gradation of values and a more transparent way of assessing value. Bands are plain for all to understand. The rate levied for each band will retain one benefit of the poll tax, an annual publicised charge for property in each band. Banding means that every household will have to pay something, while seven bands reduces the need for argument, and for costly appeals, for those on the borderline between bands.

Using the old rateable values to fix the bands could have allowed the new tax to be brought in a year earlier, but capital valuation will at least mean greater fairness from the start. The cheapest properties will all pay something — except where occupiers are eligible for rebate — and the most expensive will be limited to two and a half times the lowest. This avoids the penal levies on valuable properties and the virtual exemption of cheap ones that made the rates so unpopular. The government is also rightly insisting that all houses, including council flats, must be separately billed.

So far so good. But yesterday's announcement was marred by two aberrations. The proposed 25 per cent deduction for single householders has little basis in equity. Single people, including the elderly and single parents, tend to be relatively heavy users of local services. Where they are not, they tend to have higher disposable incomes than others. The genuinely indigent single householder may be eligible for rebate, but the generality of single people in large valuable properties should at least not be encouraged to underoccupy them. That is what Mr Heseltine is doing. He is vulnerable to the charge of offering a straight bribe to certain rich Tories who did so well from the poll tax. The backbenchers whom the discount is meant to appease were not likely to muster enough support to block the new tax overall. This is an expensive and unnecessary complication, and a needless gift to Labour.

The second aberration is the continuance of rate capping. The whole purpose of the government limiting the spread of bands is to prevent the levying of penal rates on more expensive properties. Having introduced this regressive element — and having spent huge sums reducing the overall burden of local taxes over the past two years — the continuation of capping is indefensible. Councils should be left to impose their taxes on their residents and face the consequence at the polls. Anything else makes local government less responsive. Mr Heseltine damages the case for renewed local accountability by keeping this, the worst feature of 1980s centralism. The impression is that, once again, an environment secretary is being forced to dance to a Treasury tune.

The cabinet's ability to keep a clear head will now be crucial as it sells the reform to its backbenchers and the troops in the field. These are the true walking wounded of the poll tax wars. The cabinet's château generals all won promotion as a result of last year's sanguinary defeat of Mrs Thatcher and her favourite tax. The poor bloody infantry must be told to go back to the trenches and tell the faithful that last summer's offensive was all a ghastly mistake.

The best outcome now would be for all sides to the argument to take a break from controversy. This is a constitutional change with a measure of public agreement behind it. For all the puffing and gloating of Labour spokesmen yesterday, little light can be seen between Mr Heseltine's plans and those of the Opposition. Only the single-person discount and the detailed valuation system divide the parties. The public has an interest in a system designed to avoid the need for periodic revaluation. Labour cannot gain electoral advantage by promising yet another change.

In particular, Labour would do better to follow up its offer of co-operation with the second and more important of yesterday's announcements. Mr Heseltine's consultation paper on reforming local government structure adds little to what he has already announced: a commission to tour the English countryside (but sadly not the metropolitan areas) asking people what sort of local councils they would like. While professing a bias in favour of single-tier councils, his mind is open on the matter.

Public opinion has moved against bigness in government. The thesis which lay behind the last reform of local government, that councils must be of a certain size to offer a full range of services, no longer obtains. Subcontracting and buying in from neighbouring councils and the private sector enables quite small government units to be viable. Hence Mr Heseltine's enthusiasm for parish councils and "enabling" authorities, regulating and purchasing local services but not managing large direct-labour staffs. Rutland and East Riding can live again, as can the old boroughs, with real power to deliver services as well as their pomp and ceremony. The Napoleons of Notting Hill can rise again (if only Mr Heseltine would widen the commission's remit to neglected London).

The excitement of the reform, due to reach fruition in 1994, will lie in the flexibility with which the commission can respond to such new ideas. Most countries on the continent have smaller and thus more accountable units than Britain. The experience of the 1970s and 1980s has been disastrous both for Britain's local democracy and for the quality of many local services. The squalor of much of London is not the only blot on the public-sector landscape. The sluggish renewal of the great cities of the north and the inability of the counties to protect their countryside from despoliation and their villages from ugliness testify to this constitutional weakness.

In the new system, there should be room for counties and districts, for parishes and boroughs, as well as for new or restored "unitary" creations. The proof of reform will lie in rising election turnouts, in improved quality of services and in the declining involvement of Whitehall in local decisions. This means ministers and civil servants must exercise a restraint to which they have so far been averse; their decision to keep capping bodes ill. But if Mr Major and Mr Heseltine really can turn back the evil tide of 1980s centralism, they will have begun a bold new age of local democracy.

NONSENSE ON STILTS?

The "manifesto for animals" published by three pressure groups yesterday referred not to an extension of the suffrage into the animal kingdom but a list of things all animal-loving MPs ought not to stand for. The manifesto's shopping list is short and reasonable, asking for bans on cosmetic testing on animals and on intensive factory farming for fur. Only the demand for an end to battery egg production will cause most MPs to hesitate.

None the less the success of one of the three sponsoring bodies, Lynx, in bringing the wild fur trade to the verge of extinction in Britain shows that these are no paper tigers. Animal-protection movements have the wind of public sympathy in their sails.

Lynx started in 1985 and is the most modern of the three campaigns, favouring the evocative language of animal "rights". The British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, founded 1898, prefers the longer-established expression animal welfare, as does the third body, Compassion in World Farming, dating from 1967. There is a shift in the language in which such bodies describe their aims, like the shift in the language of their titles, of more significance than mere literary fashion. "Animal rights" has a tinge of militancy only topped by "animal liberation"; animal welfare and the very word compassion used by the animal farming lobby speak the language of earlier and gentler campaigns.

While welfare is a matter of degree, talk of rights conveys an absolute imperative. Jeremy Bentham, reacting to the extravagances of the French Revolution, called human rights "nonsense on stilts", but human welfare he certainly believed in. Few would today dismiss human rights so nonchalantly, and would at least want to reply with Isaac D'Israeli's "Nonsense is sometimes irrefutable". Human rights, nonsense or not, are now taken for granted.

Animal rights, nonsense or not, may simply be later in the queue for acceptance into the common vocabulary. The substitution of animal rights for animal welfare, however, may not be such a step forward as it sounds, if the result makes less sense. Does an antelope have the right not to be eaten by a lion? The universal presence in the wild of what humans call cruelty is where the idea of animal rights runs into difficulties.

A right, Bentham notwithstanding, is posited as a natural thing, a property possessed before, and irrespective of, its recognition by others. A human decision that an antelope has rights, however, is not going to save it unless the lion agrees. Neither knows anything of natural rights, only the natural law of predation.

Welfare, after all, may be the more solid concept. It places the onus entirely on humankind and on its duties to animalkind. But it also recognises, as the concept of rights does not, that there has to be an order of subordination. Using animals for trivial purposes, such as the testing of cosmetics and the fashion for wearing furs, is not in aid of human welfare but human vanity and commercial profit. Hence the sacrifice of animal welfare for such purposes is not justified. But the testing of new drugs can sometimes only be performed on animals, and has to be justifed on the grounds that the unintended death of an animal is less bad than the death — from untreated disease or from an untested drug — of a human being. In such a case it is the human's right to life which has to prevail over the animal's welfare. To say an animal's rights must prevail over human welfare really would be nonsense on stilts.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Undue profit on cost of dying?

From the Co-ordinator of the Natural Death Centre

Sir, I do not agree with Mr Edward Leigh, the consumer affairs minister (report, April 23), that it is "neither necessary nor desirable" to bring in further regulation of the funeral industry. We tend rather to the view of Mr Lawrence Cunliffe, MP (report, April 22), that excessive profits are being made.

The newly formed Natural Death Centre made a submission to the Office of Fair Trading earlier this month to the effect that coffin-suppliers are in breach of the Competition Act 1980 in their widespread refusal to supply coffins to the general public and to shops other than funeral directors; and to date we have found only one funeral director, in Blackburn, prepared to sell coffins retail to the public, at £45 for a coffin with handles and £21 extra for delivery in a large cardboard box.

We also put it to the Office of Fair Trading that a regulation similar to the 1984 funeral rule of the Federal Trade Commission in the United States should be introduced in this country, whereby funeral directors are obliged to give you a price breakdown for their services over the phone and a written price list when visiting their premises, so that consumers in vulnerable emotional states are not taken advantage of.

There is definitely something very amiss with funeral services in the UK when the cheapest funeral in London available to the general public costs some £595, whilst the cheapest funeral in France costs £140.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEFINE SPEYER, Co-ordinator,
The Natural Death Centre,
20 Heber Road, Cricklewood, NW2.
April 23.

Metering of water

From Mr K. N. Redsell

Sir, Your correspondence (April 6, 12, 22) on the metering of domestic water reminded me that we recently had friends visit us from Spain, a country not known for its high rainfall. The cost of their metered water, including re-filling the swimming pool, is approximately £90 a year for a family of two.

The cost of un-metered water for our cottage in Suffolk for a family of three (including a small boy naturally allergic to washing) is £162 a year, plus £175 for sewerage.

Our village has had seven broken water pipes since December. I suggest that metering of domestic water would highlight the inefficiencies of the water companies, but might not lead to lower prices to householders.

Yours sincerely,
KEN REDSELL,
Larkshayes, Burgh,
Woodbridge, Suffolk.
April 23.

Concern for dentistry

From Professor N. W. Johnson

Sir, The continued under-funding of the Medical Research Council is likely to lead, in the words of its secretary, to a coverage which is "both patchy and thin". It has been indicated that dental research, in which Britain has a proud record of quality and world leadership, is one of the areas from which the council may be forced to withdraw altogether.

The taxpayer provides some £1 billion p.a. towards dental and oral health care in England and Wales, while the MRC spends some £1.3 million pounds p.a. on what may loosely be defined as dental research. I estimate that income from the Universities Funding Council, medical research charities and industry brings this to an investment of the order of only £10 million p.a. in basic and applied dental research in the United Kingdom.

No major industrial enterprise would survive by investing only 1 per cent of its turnover in research and development.

Yours faithfully,
NEWELL JOHNSON
(Honorary Director),
MRC Dental Research Unit,
London Hospital Medical College,
30-32 Newark Street, E2.

Fit for a king

From Mr Henry F. Quinn

Sir, The Young Pretender is described as Charles III (letters, April 11) on the monument to the Stuarts in St Peter's Basilica, Rome, where his father, the Old Pretender, is described as James III and his younger brother, Henry, Cardinal York, as Henry IX.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY F. QUINN,
18 Reform Street,
Blairgowrie, Tayside, Scotland.

Polytechnics' research

From Professor Richard Taylor and Professor Nigel Savage

Sir, Professor Leigh and other university law professors (April 17) make an important point about the nature of much useful legal research and the logistical problems of funding it through research councils more appropriate for large-scale projects. However, in criticising "a proposal to split the funding arrangements for universities and polytechnics" they are in danger of obscuring the separate point that these funding arrangements are already unjustifiably split, not as between teaching and research but as between universities and polytechnics.

This existing split needs to be healed and polytechnics and universities brought under a common funding body, so that resources are allocated more equitably across the two sectors. The polytechnics have achieved a great deal despite their much lower costs per student, as was graciously acknowledged by the vice-chancellor of Liverpool University (report, April 13), but they have the potential for even more if given a fairer share of resources.

What is undoubtedly required is a single funding system common to both universities and polytechnics which allocates funds at a realistic level per student to allow for the research and curriculum development that is an integral part of good teaching and which is essential to a healthy system of higher education able to meet the needs of its students and of the country as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD TAYLOR (Lancashire Polytechnic),
NIGEL SAVAGE (Nottingham Law School, Nottingham Polytechnic),
Lancashire Polytechnic,
Department of Legal Studies,
Preston, Lancashire.

Time to halt the warfare in Ethiopia

From the Chairman of the Anglo-Ethiopian Society

Sir, Your Saturday Review (April 20) captions its cover referring to Ethiopia with "Africa's forgotten war". Forgotten it is not. Those of us who care for the people of Ethiopia, and the Ethiopian people who have fled the country do not forget.

Only last week Ethiopians in this country tried to draw attention to the present and impending disaster. The Movement of Ethiopians Against War marched to Downing Street and appealed to the British government to use its influence to stop the fighting.

The solution proposed in your article and by your recent correspondents (April 2, 15) to support this side or that, to withhold or supply aid, all fail to recognise the immediate overhanging calamity. Regardless of the future forms of government, the one essential is to stop the warfare now.

The armed forces of all sides chase each others' tails round and round the country. With cynical disregard for the people, the rebel/liberator armies allow a town to be taken so that the ensuing treatment of the population by the government army so sickens the people that on their return the rebel army is seen as truly a liberator. Mengistu, as the government, has a total disregard for the lives expended and also uses famine as a weapon of the war.

In the break-up of order there will be, inevitably, the murder, looting and worse of a defeated army, combined with the armed "street groups" set up by the government long ago to keep the population in control.

This society is non-political in its stance. Its concern is for the people of Ethiopia under whatever government. Your highlighting is timely. The desperate need now is to stop the fighting. There are perhaps only a few weeks left, if not days.

Yours faithfully,
J. RANDELL, Chairman,
The Anglo-Ethiopian Society,
37 Panton Street, SW1.
April 21.

From Professor C. Clapham

Sir, Professor Ullendorff's hope (April 15) that the disappearance of the present regime in Ethiopia may lead to that unhappy country's reconstruction is likely to remain a pious aspiration unless the diplomatic community is prepared to take positive steps to support it.

The major insurgent movement now fighting to overthrow the Mengistu regime, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, has already declared war against one of its rivals, the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party, and its relations with the Oromo Liberation Front are close to breaking point after its incursions into OLF-held territory. Its current pact with the other major insurgent movement, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, is inherently unstable and is unlikely to survive the capture of power in Addis Ababa.

So far from leading to the federal structure envisaged by Professor Ullendorff, the collapse of the central government is liable to result in a new round of civil war and the Lebanonisation of the country. Recent events in Liberia and the Somali republic have shown us how tragic that would be.

A courageous group of Ethiopians in Addis Ababa have recently called for the transfer of power from the Mengistu regime to a transitional government that would oversee the elections which offer the only prospect of a peaceful resolution of the current conflicts in Ethiopia. Such an initiative, however, can only succeed if the international community (and perhaps especially the European Community) is prepared to give it strong diplomatic backing.

On April 16 you reported the Princess Royal's concern that Africa was being driven off the world agenda by neglect. The current conflicts in Ethiopia provide both a case in point and an opportunity to help provide a democratic solution to Africa's longest-running civil wars.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER CLAPHAM,
Lancaster University,
Department of Politics and
International Relations,
Lancaster LA1 4YL.

From Mr Niall Andrews, MEP for Dublin (European Democratic Alliance (Fianna Fail))

Sir, As an Irish member of the European Parliament delegation which Mrs Margaret Daly led to Ethiopia, I would like to record that the views expressed in her letter (April 2) fairly reflected not only the views of the delegation but the concerns expressed by the European Community delegation in Addis Ababa and the various European ambassadors who briefed us when we were there.

Let me assure Professor Ullendorff, Mr FitzGibbon and Mr Gebru (April 15) that Mrs Daly left the members of the Ethiopian state council in no doubt that we believed it necessary for them to have more consultation with the people of Ethiopia as to the kind of democratization needed to ensure that economic reforms would have a firm foundation in which to function effectively.

The three letters referred to above are hostile to the Mengistu regime and our delegation would share their revulsion at past bloodshed. But taking refuge in the past is not good enough and it would be unjust and unwise to penalize the whole Ethiopian people in order to level scores with Mengistu. The reforms which Mrs Daly mentioned are under way. They have not been opposed or obstructed by Mengistu.

All the good work which has been done would be totally undermined if the West were to accept the negative advice offered by your correspondents. Indeed, were we to refuse the essential short-term aid Mrs Daly seeks we should be playing into the hands of hardliners, for they would then be able to claim that the courageous reformers had been betrayed by the West.

Yours faithfully,
NIALL ANDREWS,
European Parliament,
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg.
April 16.

Missionary stress

From Dr Roger Peppiatt

Sir, Having been a missionary myself and the medical officer to a missionary society for six years, I know from personal experience that working in developing countries often involves sacrificing a more comfortable lifestyle and the support of friends and relations here, which can contribute to stress (report, April 16).

I also know that societies give a very high priority to the maintenance of the health, both physical and mental, of their missionary staff. Great care goes into choosing people, giving as much support as is possible whilst overseas and in meticulous care of them when they return. I am confident that missionary societies will continue to explore ways of reducing the incidence of ill-health among missionaries as described in my study, referred to in your report.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER PEPPIATT,
15 Wyvern Close, Dartford, Kent.

Tibet anniversary

From Mrs Sheila Oakes

Sir, On May 23 the Chinese are planning to celebrate the signing 40 years ago of a document which marked the end of their invasion of Tibet and the start of its colonisation. These celebrations will take place in Lhasa, in Peking at an event to which ambassadors and other important foreigners will be invited, and also, we understand, at receptions or similar events at Chinese embassies around the world.

Europeans can do nothing about the event in Lhasa, to which Tibetans strongly object, and which includes raising a 70-metre high monument, demolishing houses to widen streets in the Tibetan part of the town and cosmetic tree planting. Europeans can refuse invitations to all other events and we urge them to do so.

Yours faithfully,
SHEILA OAKES (Chairman),
Tibet Support Group UK,
43 New Oxford Street, WC1.
April 16.

Census questions

From Miss Jean Powell

Sir, As a cancer epidemiologist my heart leapt with joy on seeing the question "Ethnic group" on the census form. Comparisons of cancer rates in different countries have for many years given valuable clues on possible causative factors of cancer. It has also been possible in some cases to compare rates for ethnic and other groups within a country.

In the United Kingdom studies, not just of cancer, have been severely handicapped by the absence of any precise numerical data on different ethnic groups. Why throw away a tool which gives insight into a natural experiment?

The vexed question of ethnic group versus country of birth does not apply since these are two separate questions and therefore can be tabulated independently.

Yours sincerely,
JEAN POWELL,
20 Iris Close,
Weoley Hill, Birmingham 29.
April 20.

Making a joyful noise to the Lord

From Mr Mike Norbury

Sir, With your newspaper's tradition for preciseness, I was amazed to find the headline "Unsaintly applause as Carey stirs the cathedral" over your front-page report on Archbishop Carey's enthronement (April 20). Since when has clapping been unsaintly?

Psalm 47 begins: "Clap your hands, all ye nations; shout to God with cries of joy!". Surely last Friday was a day of celebration. George Carey, a man born again in the Holy Spirit, has been appointed by God to lead the Anglican Communion as we head towards the end of the millennium.

When we celebrate in our church we clap, we laugh, we dance, we praise God. At a wedding we not only applaud the happy couple (now happening in many churches when the pronouncement "I now declare you man and wife" is given), we even let off party poppers. When a celebration takes place in God's presence we are expected to be as happy as he is. And he was happy last Friday.

We tend to look at the stained glass-window images of saints and cannot imagine them dancing and clapping. They were living saints, flesh and blood like you and me. God is a God of emotion, right across the spectrum; he would never have taken away their emotions of joy and will to celebrate — in fact he would have enhanced them, as anything we do in his name we do wholeheartedly.

Yours faithfully,
MIKE NORBURY,
7 Heol Wen, Coedpoeth,
Wrexham, Clwyd.
April 22.

From Mr Toby Kenton-Hole

Sir, The letter from Mr Norman Hart (April 19) reveals some of the popular misconceptions regarding charismatic worship. The "waving of arms" witnessed at such churches is not an attempt to attract attention to the worshipper, nor is it a display of sanctimony. It is the result of Christians being enthused by the worship of God; most are unaware that others are even examining their actions.

Charismatic worship is by no means a modern phenomenon. 1 Chronicles 15:16 speaks of David appointing "Singers to sing joyful songs, accompanied by lyres, harps and cymbals" — without an organ in sight! Likewise the apostles did not feel inhibited in their worship or embarrassed to use the gifts of the Spirit.

Yours sincerely,
T. KENTON-HOLE,
5 Marion Grove,
Woodford Green, Essex.

From Mr Peter Royle

Sir, Now that it has been established that it is acceptable in church to express approval by clapping, what should one do to express disapproval?

Yours faithfully,
PETER ROYLE,
17 Woodfield Road,
Solihull, West Midlands.
April 23.

Pound for pound

From Mr Anthony Murray

Sir, According to the statistics released by the Central Statistical Office (report, April 18) since 1953 a packet of 20 cigarettes has risen in price by a multiple of 8.14 and a relatively harmless pound of cheese by 30.2.

If cigarettes increased in price as fast as cheese, a packet of 20 would today cost £6.34. The next time a smoker complains to me of tax increases in the Budget, I shall say "hard cheese".

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY MURRAY,
Dove House, Bishopstone,
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.
April 19.

Food for thought

From Mrs Jeanette F. Huber

Sir, Mrs Glyn Daniel's letter (April 19) may have stirred up a whole potful of custard. Whereas she says *Crème brûlée* was introduced in 1879 from Aberdeenshire to Trinity College, Cambridge, my cookbook claims an even earlier mention of the dish.

Betty Crocker's Picture Cook Book (McGraw-Hill, 1950) includes the recipe for *Crème brûlée* on page 248 with the introduction:

> This elegant dish was a feature of the famous hospitality of Thomas Jefferson's Virginia home, Monticello. He brought the recipe from France in 1790.

Bon appétit!

Yours faithfully,
JEANETTE F. HUBER,
Apartment 22,
35/37 Grosvenor Square, W1.
April 19.

From Mrs David Connelly

Sir, According to F. Marian McNeill, in *The Scots Kitchen* (Blackie & Son, 1929), Burnt Cream which came from a country house in Aberdeenshire in the eighteen-sixties was offered to the kitchens of Trinity College by an undergraduate and rejected with contempt. When the undergraduate became a Fellow in 1879 he presented it again and this time it was accepted and speedily became one of the favourite dishes of May Week.

Yours faithfully,
AUDREY CONNELLY,
8 Palmerston Road, Edinburgh 9.
April 19.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE

April 23: The President of the Republic of Poland and Mrs Walesa arrived in Windsor today on a State Visit to The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh at Windsor Castle.

The President and Mrs Walesa arrived at Heathrow Airport, London.

The Duke of Kent welcomed The President of the Republic of Poland and Mrs Walesa on behalf of The Queen at Heathrow Airport and travelled by motor car to the Royal Pavilion in the Home Park (Public), Windsor, where Their Excellencies were met by The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

The President of the Republic of Poland and Mrs Walesa, accompanied by The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, drove in a Carriage Procession to Windsor Castle with a Sovereign's Escort of the Household Cavalry.

Gun Salutes were fired in the Home Park (Private) by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery and from the Tower of London by the Honourable Artillery Company.

Guards of Honour were provided at the Home Park (Public) by the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards and at Windsor Castle by the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards.

The Queen invested The President of the Republic of Poland with the Insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

The President of the Republic of Poland and Mrs Walesa this afternoon at Windsor Castle received Addresses of Welcome from the Chairman and Members of the Council of the Royal County of Berkshire and from the Mayor and Councillors of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.

The President and Mrs Walesa later visited Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother at Royal Lodge.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a State Banquet this evening in honour of The President of the Republic of Poland and Mrs Walesa at which Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Prince Edward, The Princess Royal, The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke and Duchess of Kent, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent and Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy, and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy were present.

The following had the honour of being invited:

Suite of The President of the Republic of Poland

Mr Krzysztof Skubiszewski (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Mr Janusz Ziolkowski (Secretary of State in The President's Office), Mr Arkadiusz Rybicki (Under-Secretary of State in The President's Office), Mr Andrzej Drzycimski (The President's Spokesman), Mr Mieczyslaw Wachowski (Director of The President's Cabinet), Mr Janusz Switkowski (Director of the Protocol Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), The Reverend Franciszek Cybula (The President's Chaplain), Mr Antoni Kaminski (Deputy Director of the European Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Mr Bogdan Marczewski (Deputy Director of the Protocol Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Mrs Grazyna Pusz (Lady in Waiting to Mrs Walesa).

Specially attached in attendance upon The President of the Republic of Poland

The Viscount Boyne (Lord in Waiting), Mrs John Dugdale (Lady in Waiting), Mr Stephen Barrett (British Ambassador at Warsaw) and Mrs Barrett and Wing Commander David Walker, RAF.

Ambassadors and High Commissioners

His Excellency the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia and Madame Almanqour, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland and Mrs de Virion, His Excellency the Ambassador of the State of Kuwait, His Excellency the Ambassador of Luxembourg and Madame Molitor, His Excellency the Ambassador of Indonesia and Mrs Hadi Thayeb, His Excellency the Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary and Mrs Antalpéter.

Members of the Polish Embassy

Dr Tadeusz Szumowski (Counsellor), Mr Zdzislaw Rapacki (Minister).

The Cabinet

The Lord Chancellor and the Lady Mackay of Clashfern, the Prime Minister and Mrs Major, the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and the Hon Mrs Douglas Hurd, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mrs Lamont, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and Mrs Gummer, the Secretary of State for Wales and Mrs Hunt.

Special Invitations

The Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs Carey, the Right Hon the Speaker and Mrs Weatherill, the Earl Marshal and the Duchess of Norfolk, the Marquess and Marchioness of Salisbury, the Lord and Lady Cledwyn of Penrhos, the Lord Chief Justice of England and the Lady Lane, the Baroness Ryder of Warsaw and Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, the Baroness Cox and Dr Murray Cox, the Right Hon James Molyneaux, MP, the Right Hon Neil Kinnock, MP and Mrs Kinnock, the Right Hon Robin and Mrs Leigh-Pemberton, the Right Hon Paddy Ashdown, MP and Mrs Ashdown, Captain the Hon Nicholas and Mrs Beaumont, the Right Hon the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, the Archbishop of Southwark, Field Marshal Sir Richard and Lady Vincent.

General Sir John and Lady Chapple, Sir Patrick and Lady Wright, Sir Robin and Lady Butler, Sir Jeremy and Lady Morse, Sir Brian and Lady Corby, Sir Denys and Lady Henderson, Dr Sir Alan Glyn, MP and the Lady Rosula Glyn, Sir Andrzej and Lady Panufnik, Mr and Mrs John Henderson, the Chairman, Council of the Royal County of Berkshire and Mrs Wiseman, the Mayor and Mayoress of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Mr and Mrs Charles Pollard, Mr Jaroslaw Lindenberg, Mr Mieczyslaw Gorajewski, Major-General and Mrs Simon Cooper, Professor and Mrs George Zarnecki, Dr and Mrs Norman Wooding, Mr and Mrs Gavin Laird, Professor and Mrs Adam Neville, Monsieur Jacques Attali, Professor and Mrs Michael Branch, Mr and Mrs Peter Jackson and Mr and Mrs Erroll Yates.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

April 23: The Duchess of York this morning visited Tyne and Wear and was received by Colonel J. W. Dowdeswell (Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear).

Her Royal Highness visited the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association (SSAFA) and Forces Help Society (FHS) office, MEA House, Ellison Place, Newcastle.

The Duchess of York, President of Action Research, then visited Newcastle General Hospital.

Her Royal Highness this afternoon visited Northumberland and was received by Colonel M. Cookson (Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Northumberland).

The Duchess of York, President of Action Research, attended a reception for Action Research Fundraising Committees at Wallington Hall, Northumberland.

Her Royal Highness, President of Action Research, this evening attended the Inauguration of the Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery at Aberdeen University Medical School, Aberdeen.

Mrs John Spooner and Captain Neil Blair, RN, were in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE

April 23: Miss Jane Walker-Okeover has succeeded Dame Frances Campbell-Preston as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 23: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this morning attended a Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral to celebrate the 125th Anniversary of the John Grooms Association for Disabled People.

Mrs Fiona Henderson was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

April 23: Princess Alexandra, Patron, this afternoon opened the new Home Care Base and Day Centre at St Christopher's Hospice, Sydenham, London SE26.

Mrs Peter Afia was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy celebrate the twenty-eighth anniversary of their marriage today.

Birthdays today

Sir Bernard Audley, founder, AGB Research, 67; Mr Ralph Brown, sculptor, 63; Field Marshal Lord Carver, 76; Sir Bernard Caulfield, former High Court judge, 77; Mr J.E.H. Collins, former chairman, Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Group, 68; Sir Gordon Cox, chemist, 85; Mr Justice Cresswell, former Chairman of the Bar, 47; the Earl of Eldon, 54; Sir Clement Freud, former MP and writer, 67.

Dame Helen Gardiner, formerly chief clerk, Private Secretary's Office, Buckingham Palace, 90; Admiral Sir Rae McKaig, 69; Miss Shirley Maclaine, actress, 57; Sir Hugh Park, former High Court judge, 81; Mr Stuart Pearce, footballer, 29; Mr Joseph Rank, honorary president, Ranks Hovis McDougall, 73; Mrs Bridget Riley, artist, 60; Miss Barbra Streisand, singer and actress, 49; Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart Townend, founder, Hill House International Junior School, 82; Mr John Williams, guitarist, 50.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit the Royal Merchant Navy School Foundation at Bear Wood, Wokingham, Berkshire, at 3.00.

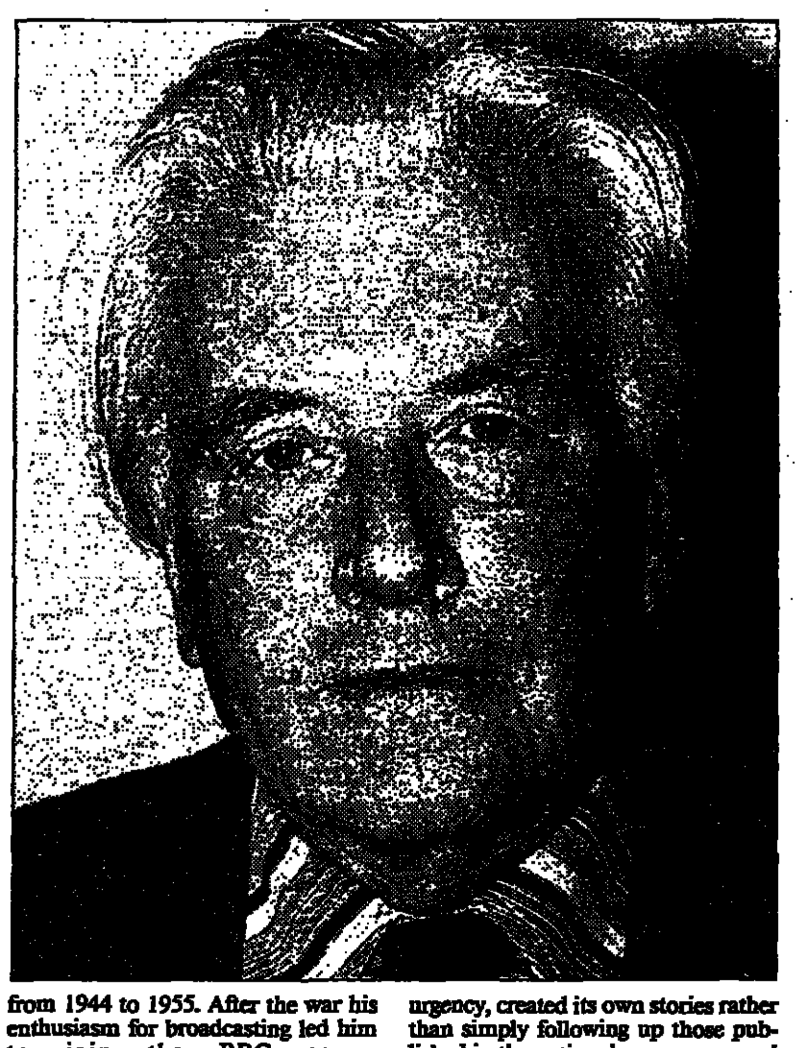
The Princess Royal, as President of the British Olympic Association, will attend a National Olympic Committee meeting at 1 Wandsworth Plain, SW18, at 10.00; and, as President of the Royal Yachting Association, will attend a meeting of the council at the Royal Thames Yacht Club, 60 Knightsbridge, at 4.15.

Nicholas H. Phillips

A memorial service for Nicholas H. Phillips will be held at the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, London, W1, at 11 am, on Tuesday, May 7, 1991.

OBITUARIES

ANDREW BOYLE



Andrew Boyle, author and broadcaster, died on April 22 aged 71. He was born in Dundee on May 27, 1919.

ANDREW Philip More Boyle was a pioneer of modern current affairs radio journalism and capped a substantial output as a biographer with an investigation into the treason of the Soviet agents, Burgess, Maclean and Philby, that led to the public unmasking of Anthony Blunt, the Queen's former art adviser, as a traitor.

Although personally convinced of Blunt's complicity in the Burgess, Maclean, Philby conspiracy, Boyle could not prove it and so referred to him in *The Climate of Treason*, when it was first published in 1979, only as "Maurice". Nevertheless his revelations in the book led to questions in the House of Commons concerning Blunt's activities. These resulted in Margaret Thatcher disclosing in a Commons statement on November 15, 1979 that 15 years earlier, after being guaranteed immunity from prosecution, Blunt had confessed that while he was a Cambridge University don in the 1930s he had been a recruiting agent for the Soviet Union. Immediately after the prime minister's revelations, Buckingham Palace announced that Blunt had been stripped of his knighthood and Boyle began a speedy rewrite of his book.

It was widely acknowledged that it was Boyle's dogged and meticulous research that had brought the Blunt scandal into the open. He had stumbled upon Blunt's involvement three years earlier while visiting Cambridge during the early stages of his research for his book. He had later asked Goronwy Rees, a friend of Guy Burgess, who it was that Burgess had named when he had admitted in 1936 that he had been a Comintern agent since his Cambridge days. Boyle wrote later: "Goronwy whispered in my ear the two words: 'Anthony Blunt'." Boyle established that Blunt had operated hand in glove with Burgess, unobtrusively turning the proceedings of The Apostles, a secret society of the cultural elite at the university, into a progressive Marxist cell.

Boyle's first experience of the world of spying came during the second world war. After escaping in 1940 from France where he had been a university student and spending two years in the RAFVR, he served in military intelligence in the Far East from 1944 to 1955. After the war his enthusiasm for broadcasting led him to join the BBC as a scriptwriter/producer rather than becoming press attaché at the British High Commission in India which would have given him twice the salary. At the BBC he became assistant editor of the current affairs programme *Radio Newsreel* and deliberately stayed with radio rather than moving into television

In 1965 with William Hardcastle, a former Fleet Street newspaper editor, as anchor man, Boyle created a new style radio news formula with *The World At One* which was broadcast on what was then the Home Service. Until that time radio news had consisted of mostly anonymous announcers reading out news agency reports. With Boyle as producer *The World at One* introduced a sense of urgency, created its own stories rather than simply following up those published in the national newspapers and with presenters such as Ludovic Kennedy, Christopher Chataway, Rene Cutforth and Leonard Parkin quickly earned a reputation as the brightest and best informed radio news and comment programme. It spearheaded a revival in the fortunes of radio news and soon attracted four million listeners. *The World At One* also attracted complaints of bias from various politicians but Boyle rode them out.

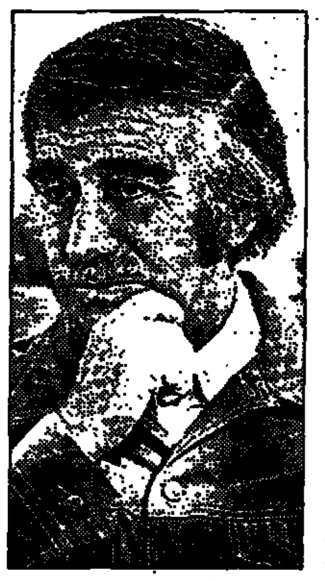
After five years producing *The World at One* and other similar current affairs programmes, including *The World This Weekend* and *PM*, Boyle became head of news and current affairs at BBC Scotland. He confessed to a love-hate relationship with the BBC and from 1976 began concentrating on his parallel career as a biographer. This had begun in 1955 with the publication of *No Passing Glory*, his account of the life of Group Captain Leonard Cheshire VC which was followed in 1962 by a biography of Lord Trenchard, the first Marshal of the Royal Air Force. In 1967 Boyle wrote a life of of Montagu Norman, governor of the Bank of England from 1920 to 1944, which was credited with shedding much new light on Britain's financial and economic affairs between the wars. This was followed by a biography of Lord Reith, the creator and first director general of the BBC. A fifth biography, of Brendan Bracken, the politician and journalist, won the Whitebread award for biography in 1974, a prize which led Boyle to win a test case against the Inland Revenue which attempted to claim tax on the £1,000 prize money.

Andrew Boyle was born in Scotland, although only because his mother insisted on returning to her home town from England for the birth of each of her children. As an author and broadcaster he developed the ability to assess what made people tick and a thorough understanding of how Westminster and Whitehall operated. He was also adept at inferring the nuances in what people did not say. He listed as a favourite recreation watching bad football matches from public terraces, especially at Fulham. Before his death he was working on another book dealing with espionage which was expected to centre on the career of Sir Dick White who was director general of MI5 from 1953 to 1956 and head of MI6 until 1969. This prompted reports of alarm in Whitehall and predictions that there would be attempts to suppress publication.

This was familiar territory for Boyle. His exposé of such a highly placed traitor as Blunt took considerable courage because of the possibilities of pressures from within the establishment and the danger of encountering expensive libel proceedings. He said later that he pitied Blunt but wished the traitor had expressed more sense of shame. Boyle maintained that in addition to Blunt his research had uncovered as many as 25 possible traitors working for British intelligence. Some of them were eminent people but, he said, it was up to the government to name them.

He leaves his widow, Eleanor, and a son and daughter from a previous marriage.

DON SIEGEL



Don Siegel, American film director, died at his home in California on April 20 aged 78. He was born in 1912.

DON Siegel is best known for the crime thrillers and science fiction films like *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956) and *Dirty Harry* (1971) which were such popular successes. But he had begun his directing life in a very different vein with two shorts, the nativity allegory *Star in the Night* and the very different *Hitler Lives*, both of which won Oscars in 1945. In retrospect the gulf between such films and the later box office hits is seen to be less great than might be imagined. Nothing Siegel did was ever less than craftsmanlike and he brought his own brand of thoughtfulness even to films which appeared merely riproaring or to be revelling in violence.

Siegel had learned his craftsmanship in Hollywood in the days of the great studios and he was to treasure that apprenticeship as long as he lived. Born in Chicago, he had studied in London at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art before returning to the United States where he got a job in Hollywood in the stock shot library at Warner Bros. He became an assistant editor and then worked in the insert department which shot any scene the director found too boring. His next formative experience came with his appointment as head of the montage department, creating the sequences which in those days were often used to indicate the passage of time in the film's story. Siegel's montages were seen in many of the studios' biggest titles and the work he did on *Casablanca* (1942) earned him the rare compliment of a credit.

Grateful though he was for the experience he gleaned from it, Hollywood and its procedures irked him and when, in 1944, he got his chance to direct himself his first thought was how he might most infuriate Jack L. Warner, the executive producer. As a Jewish born atheist he hit upon the idea of a contemporary retelling of the nativity story, *Star in the Night*. The result, in which a Mexican couple, José and the pregnant Maria, arrive at a motel just in the nick of time, does not wear well today, but it won Siegel an Oscar, thus totally failing in its intended aim of irritating Warner. Its successor, *Hitler Lives*, a compilation film, had the same success.

Siegel moved into thriller territory in 1946 with *The Verdict*, from Israel Zangwill's Victorian murder mystery novel, *The Big Bow Mystery*. It was the first of a series of B pictures on which he increasingly stamped a personal style. By *Riot in Cell Block Eleven* (1954) he had emerged as a thoughtful film maker, able to operate within a low budget, in a picture which made an eloquent plea for prison reform. *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956), another low budget sortie, is a science-fiction classic with its subtle unravelling of the story of the takeover of a small American town by aliens. It remains an object lesson in the art of making science-fiction convincing without the visual trappings which are available to the contemporary director.

These gifts of economy continued to be seen in films like *Baby Face Nelson* and *The Killers*, the first feature film to be made for television. Siegel went on to direct a number of television pilots in the 1950s and 1960s.

Siegel had now graduated to big budget pictures and in *Coogan's Bluff* (1968) he directed Clint Eastwood in a story of an Arizona sheriff employing western police methods on the streets of New York — an effectively-done story which inspired the television series *McCloud*. Roles were reversed for *Play Misty for Me* (1971), in which Siegel played a barman in Eastwood's movie of a disc jockey pursued by a homicidal female fan. Siegel directed Eastwood again in *Dirty Harry* (1971) a violent cop movie which became a cult and spawned numerous progeny. Eastwood also appeared in *Escape from Alcatraz* (1979), a terse, brooding film which purportedly told the story of an actual breakout from San Francisco's island fortress prison almost 20 years before. In the meantime Siegel had directed a distinguished line-up of stars, John Wayne, Lauren Bacall and James Stewart in *The Shootist* (1976) which brought thoughtfulness and poignancy to an unusual, late flowering example of the Western genre.

He is survived by his wife, Carol, by a son and by four adopted children.

ANN STEWART

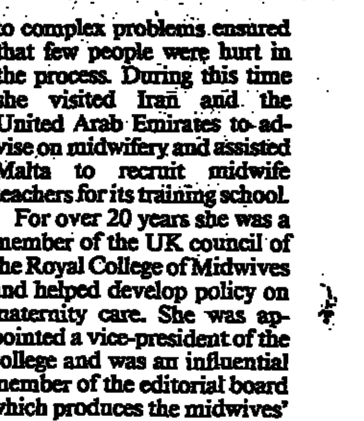
Ann Stewart, midwife, died on April 16 aged 59. She was born on September 22, 1931.

AS THE most senior midwifery officer at the English National Board for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting, Ann Stewart had overall responsibility for England's midwifery training institutions. She was also the board's chief adviser on the practice of midwifery in England, within and outside the National Health Service. In addition she was much sought after abroad as a consultant on the establishment of midwifery services, particularly in the Middle East.

Midwives, mothers and babies benefited from her gentleness and caring throughout her 36 years in midwifery. Following her nursing training at King's College Hospital in 1953, Ann Stewart went to Brighton to train as a midwife. In 1960 she did her midwife teacher diploma at High Coombe, Kingston.

Before starting her midwifery teaching career in 1962 she practised hospital and community midwifery in King's Lynn, Brighton and on the Isle of Wight. At the Elsie Inglis Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh, she developed her teaching skills before moving to London's Mile End in 1965.

She was promoted to principal midwife teacher at King's College Hospital and remained there for seven years until her appointment to the Central Midwives' Board in 1974. For the next 16 years there were many occasions when she was required to advise on problems over the implementation of training programmes. Her firm but gentle approach when working towards and finding solutions to complex problems ensured that few people were hurt in the process. During this time she visited Iran and the United Arab Emirates to advise on midwifery and assisted Malta to recruit midwife teachers for its training school.



For over 20 years she was a member of the UK council of the Royal College of Midwives and helped develop policy on maternity care. She was appointed a vice-president of the college and was an influential member of the editorial board which produces the midwives' monthly journal, *Midwives Chronicle*. She worked continually to improve standards of midwifery education and practice. She gained a BA with the Open University in 1983.

She became ill in September last year and underwent neurosurgery in December. Although confined to a wheelchair and paralysed on her left side, she learned to use her right hand despite being left-handed throughout her life.

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr C.S.J. Atterton
and Miss R.M. Hall**

The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Dr and Mrs D.V. Atterton, of Wells, Somerset, and Rhona, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J.L. Hall, of Abingdon, Oxfordshire.

**Mr J.R. Bailey
and Miss Y.H. Malik**

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Mr and Mrs Ronald Bailey, of Lesbury, Northumberland, and Yvonne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Jalil Malik, of Ryton Village, Tyne and Wear.

**Mr A.A. Chalk
and Miss M. Caulfield**

The engagement is announced between Andrew Alexander, second son of Mr and Mrs Ian Chalk, of Haddenham, Buckinghamshire, and Mary, only daughter of Sir Bernard and Lady Caulfield.

**Mr J.S. Djanogly
and Miss R.J. Silk**

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Mr and Mrs H.A.S. Djanogly, of St John's Wood, London, and Rebecca, daughter of Mr D. Silk, of Oxford, and Ms A. Buxton, of Hampstead Garden Suburb, London.

**Mr D.W. Gray
and Miss C.A. Crosland**

The engagement is announced between Duncan William, son of Mr and Mrs W.N. Gray, of New Mills Farm, Brampton, Cumbria, and Charlotte, daughter of Mr Charles Crosland, of Danes, Little Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire, and Mrs Felicity Dahl, of Gipsy House, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.

**Mr R.L. Lucas-Rowe
and Miss L.C. Dalton**

The engagement is announced between Russell, eldest son of Mr G.J. Greenman, of Australia, and Mrs M. L. Greenman, of Merritown Farm, Dorset, and Lucy, youngest daughter of Mr M. Dalton, of Bransgore, Hampshire, and Mrs J. Dalton, of Ringwood, Hampshire.

**Mr F.P.C. Norman
and Miss D.C. Alexander**

The engagement is announced between Peter, elder son of Mrs E.M. Hayes, of Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, and of the late Mr J.A. Norman, and Deborah, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.O. Alexander, of Nayland, Suffolk.

**Mr J-P. Schamp
and Miss J.F. O'Connor**

The engagement is announced between Jean-Pierre, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Emile Schamp, of Melton Mowbray, and Joanne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Ray O'Connor, of Childwall, Liverpool.

**Mr D.M.L. Scott
and Miss J.C. Koekendorp**

The engagement is announced between David, elder son of Mr J.M.L. Scott and Mrs J.S. Scott, of Stamford, Lincolnshire, and Jacobine, daughter of the late Mr and Mrs S. Koekendorp, of Amsterdam.

**Mr G.R. Sherwood
and Dr E.S. Craig**

The engagement is announced between Geoffrey Robert, younger son of Mr and Mrs R.G. Sherwood, of Bournemouth, Dorset, and Elizabeth Sara, second daughter of Dr and Mrs A.V. Craig, of Chatham, Kent.

Marriages

**Mr N.F. Maclean
and Miss C.E. Foucar**

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 20, at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon, of Mr Nicholas Maclean, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Maclean, of Sunninghill, Berkshire, to Miss Charlotte Foucar, daughter of Mr and Mrs Antony Foucar, of Wimbledon, London. The Rev Andrew Studdert-Kennedy officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Flora and Arabella Hussey, Pamina Le Guay, Breck Stewart and James Dalton. Mr George Pitman was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

**Mr N. Mair
and Miss C.M. McNair**

The marriage took place on Thursday, April 4, at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, of Mr Nicholas Mair, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Mair, to Miss Camilla McNair, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Archie McNair. Prebendary Kenneth Bowler officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Sophie Bowen, Sinéad Fleming, Llewellyn Constant and Jamie Durwood. Mr John Mair was best man.

Receptions were held at Fulham Palace and at the home of the bride in Spain.

Appointments

Mr Joseph Bernard Gosschalk and Mr John Wallace MacGregor Ballimore to be circuit judges, assigned to the South Eastern and North Eastern circuits respectively.

Judge Mitchell, QC, to be a member of the main board of the Judicial Studies Board, from May 1. He will succeed Judge Dyer and will serve on the board's criminal committee.

Dinners

Lincoln's Inn

The Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, Sir Michael Davies, and the Masters of the Bench gave a dinner last night in Hall being the Grand Day of Easter Term. Among others present were:

The High Commissioner for Nigeria, the High Commissioner for Canada, the Bishop of Worcester, Lord Charteris of Amisfield, Mr John Smith, QC, MP, Sir Stephen Brown, Mr Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP, Lord Justice Bingham, Lord Justice Taylor, Sir Denis Thatcher, Lady Davies, Sir Geraint Evans, Judge Verney, Captain T R Dunne, Mr G R A Darling, QC (treasurer, Middle Temple), Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, Mr J Anthony Holland, Mr Gareth Williams, QC, Mr Richard Eyre, Mrs Margaret Puxon, QC, Mr A Whittam Smith, Mr Miles Kington, Mrs Jane Gardam, Mrs Jonquil Stapleton, Miss Caroline Bennetts and Captain P M Carver, RN (under treasurer).

Royal Society of Health

Lord Ennals, Chairman of the Parliamentary Food and Health Forum, was the guest of honour and speaker at a dinner of the Royal Society of Health held last night at the Royal Institute of British Architects. Mr Ian Myatt, chairman of the society, was host. Sir Donald Acheson, Mr Robert Giles and Mr Hastings Carson were among the principal guests.

Fellowship of Engineering

Mr Robert Malpas, CBE, FEng, Senior Vice-President of the Fellowship of Engineering, presided at a dinner held last night at the University of Sheffield after Sir Robert Scholey, CBE, FEng, Chairman of British Steel plc, had delivered the Fellowship of Engineering 1991 Lecture on behalf of the Engineering Manufacturing Forum, 'Investing for Change - The Role of the Engineer'. The guest of honour was Lord Dainton, FRS, Chancellor of the University of Sheffield. Among others present were:

Lord Riverdale, Mr V J Osola, Professor G D Sims, Mr H Homer, Mr A Peader, Dr F Fitzgerald, Professor G Greenwood, Mr K Hodgkinson, Professor J Parnaby, Mr S Miller and Mr R J Tennyman.

Essex Yeomanry

His Excellency Mr Richard Smith, High Commissioner for Australia, and Brigadier C.A. Brown were guests of honour at the annual dinner of the Essex Yeomanry Dinner Club held at the Cavalry and Guards Club last night. Major-General T.A. Richardson presided.

Receptions

HM Government

Lord Strathclyde, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry at the Scottish Office, was host last night at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government in Edinburgh Castle to mark the congress of the Seed Committee of the Common Market.

BBC

Mr David Hatch, Managing-Director of Network Radio, BBC, was host at a reception held yesterday at Broadcasting House when Rabbi Lionel Blue and Mr Indarjit Singh were presented with inter-faith medallions on behalf of the International Council of Christians and Jews.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: William the Silent, Prince of Orange, Nassau, 1533; Edmund Cartwright, pioneer of the power loom, Marnham, Nottinghamshire, 1743; Anthony Trollope, novelist, London, 1815.

DEATHS: Jacopo Sannazaro, poet, Naples, 1530; Marie Taglioni, ballerina, Marseilles, 1884; Justin McCarthy, novelist and historian, Folkestone, 1912; Willa Cather, novelist, New York, 1947; Gerhard Domagk, bacteriologist, Nobel laureate 1939, Burgberg, Germany, 1964; Duchess of Windsor, Paris, 1986.

Luncheons

Glovers' Company

Princess Michael of Kent was the principal guest a court luncheon of the Glovers' Company held yesterday at Butchers' Hall. Mr Sidney Lea, Master, presided.

Lord Mellish

Lord Mellish was host at a luncheon of the House of Lords All-Party Building Industry Group held yesterday at the House of Lords. Mr John Woodhouse, President of the London region of the Building Employers Confederation, Mr Robert G. Smith, Chairman of the BEC Economic and Public Affairs Group, and Mr Stephen Davies, Director of BEC Legal Services, were the speakers.

Lloyd's Register

Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, was the guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday at 71 Fenchurch Street by Sir Roderick Macleod, Chairman of Lloyd's Register, senior staff, board members and members of Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance Board. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Transport, was among the guests.

First Day Cover Club

Mr Michael Donne was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the First Day Cover Club held yesterday at the RAF Club to mark the issue of the Europe in Space stamps. Mr Keith McDowall presided. Mr Geoffrey Lord, Mr John Matthews, Mr David Wilshire, MP, and Mr Keith Fisher were among those present.

Institute of Energy

Mr A. Baldry, MP, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual luncheon of the Institute of Energy held yesterday at the Inn on the Park Hotel. Mr D.M. Willis, president, presided.

هكذا عن الأصل

I place myself in your care. You will save me, Lord; you are a faithful God.
Psalm 31:5 GNB

BIRTHS

ARNOLD - On April 20th to Penelope (née Cotton) and John, a son, William Henry.

BECTIVE - On April 19th, at The Portland Hospital, to Susie (née Vandervell) and Christo, a son, Henry, a brother for Thomas.

CLOAKE - On April 17th, to Mary (née McKendrick) and John, a daughter, Eleanor Catherine.

HAMMETT - On April 19th, at The Portland Hospital, to Janice and Stephen, a daughter, Grace, sister for Luke.

MAURER-KING - On April 16th, at The Portland Hospital, to Debra and Jeremy, a daughter, Hannah Beatrice.

ISASI - On April 17th, at The Portland Hospital, to Maria (née Guerrero) and Luis, a son, Luis Javier.

LAKIN - On April 23rd, at The Portland Hospital, to Christina (née Dolan) and Mark, a son, Henry Lyon, a brother for Patrick.

MOUNT CHARLES - On April 17th, to The Earl and Countess of Mount Charles, a daughter, Tamara Jane.

PIGOTT - On April 20th, to Sara (née Lillyman) and Simon, a daughter, Grace Louise, a sister for Lara.

RAYMOND - On April 16th, to Paul and Trudie (née Ford), a daughter, Phoebe Amelia Ann, sister to Ashley.

TARLI - On April 17th, at The Portland Hospital, to Rhonda (née Sellars) and Ermanno, a son, Alighiero.

WILDING - On April 20th, at The Portland Hospital, to Sarah (née Bishop) and James, a daughter, Eleanor Clare.

WILKINSON - On April 21st, to Rosalind (née Stevens) and John, a son, Thomas Leonard.

WOODHEAD - On April 20th, to Chloë (née Palamountain) and Christopher, a son, William, twin brother to Patrick.

WOODHEAD - On April 20th, to Chloë (née Palamountain) and Christopher, a son, Patrick, twin brother to William.

DEATHS

BAIRD MURRAY - On April 22nd 1991, peacefully at Colchester, Essex, Betty Mary, wife of the late Guy Baird Murray. All enquiries A.G. Smith Funeral Service, (0621) 854293.

BOYLE - On April 22nd, peacefully, painlessly and courageously, at home with his family, Andrew Philip More, aged 71. Beloved husband of Eleanor, ever caring father of Diana and Edmund, and grandchildren Siobhan and Ross. Private requiem mass. Family flowers only - donations to Action for Dysphasic Adults, 1 Royal Street, London SE1 7LL. A Memorial Service will be arranged.

BRYANT - On April 22nd, peacefully at home after a long illness, Michael Hugh Bryant O.B.E., beloved husband of Elizabeth and dear father of Hugh and Richard, father-in-law of Katherine and Anne and grandpa of Emma. Formerly Marine Director of Bain Dawes (Midlands) and Chairman of West Midlands Export Club. Funeral Service at 2 pm on April 30th at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to Methodist Ministers Housing Association c/o Ian Hazel Funerals Ltd., 5 Belwell Lane, Four Oaks, Sutton Coldfield, B74 4AA.

CHAPLIN - On April 14th, in Florida, Charles Clifford Gordon, ichthyologist, aged 84, of Philadelphia PA and East Langdon in Kent. Old Etonian and member Royal Ocean Racing Club. He is survived by his wife Agnes, daughter Susan and son Gordon, three grandchildren and one great-grandchild, stepdaughter Sara and two stepgrandchildren. Service of remembrance at a later date in Pennsylvania.

CORBETT - On April 21st 1991, peacefully at Mount Alvernia Hospital, Guildford, after a long illness, Douglas Stanley, aged 71, beloved husband of Elizabeth. Loving father of William and Louise and five grandchildren. Funeral Service Thursday April 25th at The Mount Cemetery Chapel at 2.30 pm. A Thanksgiving Service for his life will be held at Holy Trinity Church, the date and time to be announced later. Family flowers only please but, if desired, donations to Mount Alvernia Hospital. Enquiries to J. Monk & Sons Funeral Directors, 3 Artillery Terrace, Guildford, tel: (0483) 62780.

CONWAY - On April 21st 1991, peacefully at home, Beryl Anne, wife of John and mother of Helen, David and Michael. Funeral on Monday April 29th 1991 at 1 pm at Ealing Abbey, London W5. Family flowers only, any donations to the Oncology Unit, Charing Cross Hospital, London W6.

CULL - On April 19th 1991, peacefully after a short illness, Kathleen Eleanor, widow of Malcolm, mother of Roger and grandmother of Caroline, Carey and Lucy. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Boxford, at 3 pm on Monday April 29th 1991. Family flowers only, donations to S.S.A.F.A., 19 Queen Elizabeth Street, London, SE1 2LP.

de WINTON - On April 20th, Gerald Walter Frederick, of Maesllwch Castle, Radnorshire. Funeral All Saints Church, Glasbury, at 2 pm Thursday April 25th, followed by private burial. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to All Saints Church or N.S.P.C.C.

ELLES - see Morgan Elles.

FAIRFAX-JONES - On April 21st, peacefully at home, Tamara, much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, aged 86. Cremation at 1.30 pm tomorrow, Thursday April 25th, at Golders Green Crematorium. Family flowers only, please.

FROST - On April 23rd, Maud (Monna) Evelyn Frost, peacefully in her sleep aged 88, after a wonderful life and a mercifully brief illness in the early hours of Tuesday morning. Beloved wife of the late Rev. W.J. Paradine Frost, adored mother of Jean, Margaret and David, and treasured grandma and great-grandma. The Funeral Service will take place on Tuesday April 30th at 12.45 at the Methodist/U.R. Church, Beccles. Donations in lieu of flowers to The Rev. Brian Norris, 27 Meadow Gardens, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 9PA for the Methodist/U.R. Church in Beccles and the Norwich Big C Cancer Appeal.

GRUNDY - On April 21st, Graham Charles, peacefully after a short illness, dear husband of Pam and the late Nena, much loved father of Ann and twin of Ella. Cremation at Charing Crematorium, Charing, nr. Ashford, Kent, at 1 pm on Friday April 26th. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Royal British Legion.

HENNESSY - On April 18th 1991, tragically, Eoghan, aged 23 years, of Goring-on-Thames, darling only son of Ellis and John and adored brother of Aisling and Siofra. Requiem Mass at Our Lady and St John Catholic Church, Goring-on-Thames, on Thursday April 25th 1991 at 1.30 pm. Enquiries to A.B. Walker & Son Ltd., (0734) 573650.

HOLLISS - On Friday April 19th, Jeremy, of Emsworth and of Sussex University. Funeral Service Monday April 29th at 11 am, St John the Baptist Church, Westbourne, W. Sussex. Family flowers only, from the garden if possible. Enquiries to W. Wraight & Son, tel: (0243) 372255.

LASSETTER - On April 23rd, in Sardinia, after a long illness bravely borne, Teresa (née Kennedy), beloved wife of Matthew and adored mother of Virginia and Claudia. Letters to British School, (07024) La Maddalena (SS). Funeral in Scotland, details from Mrs C. McCurry, (041) 334-6518.

LIST - On April 20th 1991, peacefully after a short illness at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, Isabel Beatrice List, much loved mother and grandmother of Mary and Jonathan Morris. Funeral Service at the Downs Crematorium, Brighton, on Friday April 26th at 2.30pm. Flowers may be sent to Bungard & Sons Ltd., 90 Sackville Road, Hove.

MACFIE - On April 22nd 1991, peacefully at Amesbury Abbey, after a long illness, Marguerite Helen Thurburn (Jane), widow of Dugald, dear stepmother of Clare. Much loved by her many friends and relatives. Funeral Service at Salisbury Crematorium on Thursday May 2nd at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only. If desired donations to Huntingdon's Disease Association c/o Gerald W. Burden Funeral Directors, Amesbury, Wilts.

MASON - On April 18th 1991, Josh David, aged 32 years. Beloved husband of Zizi. Funeral Service on Friday April 26th at Putney Vale Crematorium at 3 pm. All are welcome. No flowers but donations to Battersea Dogs Home, 4 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4AA.

McDONALD - On April 20th 1991, after a long illness endured with courage, Kate, darling sister of Grace and much loved and loving cousin and friend. Service at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Monday April 29th at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Save the Children Fund c/o C. Waterhouse & Sons, High Street, Burwash, E. Sussex, tel: (0435) 882219.

MORGAN ELLES - On April 21st 1991, at home, Theresa, beloved wife of the late D.H., dearest mother of Angelica, Jason, George and the late Sophia. Funeral Service will take place from Inveraray Parish Church on Friday April 26th 1991 at 1 pm.

MORTON - On April 21st, Mary Katherine (Kitty) née Henley. Funeral 12 noon, Tuesday April 30th at London West Crematorium, Kensal Green Cemetery, Harrow Road, W10.

NICHOLSON - On Monday April 22nd, Vivien, adored wife of John and greatly loved mother and grandmother. Service at St Saviour's R.C. Church, Totland, Isle of Wight, at 3pm Tuesday April 30th. No flowers please.

PRICE - On April 22nd 1991, after an illness borne with the courage and humour which characterised his life, Frank Henry Edmund, R.N.V.R., M.B.E. (Mily), beloved husband for over 50 years of Agnes and dearly loved father and grandfather. No flowers. Donations if desired to West Sussex MacMillan Service or sent c/o J. Gorringe & Son Funeral Directors, 56 Hare Lane, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 3EF.

REYNOLDS - On April 22nd, Donald Hugh Baillie, aged 91, of Wye, Kent, formerly of Folkestone. Funeral Service at Wye Parish Church at 2 pm Monday May 13th. No flowers. Donations, if desired, to National Trust.

ROBBINS - On April 20th 1991, peacefully at St John's, Moggerhanger, William Frederick Herbert, aged 75 years, of Fenstanton, Cambs. Husband of the late Madge Robbins. Former Chairman of Fenstanton Parish Council, Cambs, and Heating and Ventilation Engineer with the D.O.E. Funeral Service at Cambridge City Crematorium on Monday April 29th at 3.30 pm. No flowers by request but, if desired, donations may be made to Sue Ryder Homes c/o Dennis Easton Funeral Service, The Lodge, Broad Leas, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.

SMITH - On April 20th, suddenly in his sleep, Leslie James Morris, husband of the late Molly Smith, much loved father of Jonathan and Joanna and grandfather of Alice and Joseph. Funeral Service at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey, on Wednesday May 1st at 2 pm. Flowers and enquiries to F.W. Chitty & Co., tel: (0932) 842220.

STEUERT - On April 22nd, in his 80th year, Dom Hilary Steuert, Monk of Downside. Funeral at Downside Abbey on Monday April 29th at 2.30 pm. R.I.P.

TERPSTRA - On April 21st, very suddenly but peacefully: Ype, aged 70, dearly loved husband of Katherine, father of Doekele and Philip, stepfather of Tony and grandfather of Robert and Johnathan. Funeral Service at Chichester Crematorium 10.30 am Friday April 26th, followed by Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's Church, Iping, to which all friends are welcome at 3 pm on the same day. Flowers or donations to the RNLI may be sent to L.F. Liniott & Son Funeral Directors, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9DG, tel: (0730) 813264.

WHITROW - On April 22nd, peacefully, Brenda, widow of Revd. R.H. Whitrow and loving mother of Bill and Lucy. Funeral Service at Bournemouth Crematorium on Monday April 29th at 11am.

WINTERS - On Saturday April 20th, at Greenwich District Hospital, The Reverend Canon H Winters, of St Saviours Church, Eltham, SE9, after a long illness. Service at St Saviours Church, Tuesday April 30th at 2.30 pm, followed by cremation at Eltham Crematorium 4pm. No flowers. Donations to Canon Winters Memorial Fund.

WYKE - On April 22nd, peacefully after a short illness, Colonel John Edward Wyke O.B.E. Loved and missed by his wife Sheelah, by his children Elizabeth, Paul, Farida and Soraya and by all his family and friends. Funeral and interment on Saturday April 27th at 2.30pm at St Michael and All Angels, Mitchell Troy, nr. Monmouth. Family flowers only please. A Memorial Service will be announced.

YATES - On April 22nd, peacefully at home, Mary Violet (née Elliot), wife of the late Ronnie Yates, of Cavalaire, France and formerly of Abberley Hall, Worcester and the Dragon School, Oxford. Mother of Christopher, Bridget and Robin, mother-in-law of Sue and Grace and grandmother of David, Alex and Tom. As generous in her love for others as she was loved by those who knew her. Funeral Service will be held at St Nicholas Church, Eydon, Northants, at 2.30 pm, Saturday April 27th. Cremation private. All enquiries to J. Humphris, Funeral Directors, Banbury (0295) 265424.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

NORMAN - The Lady Norman, C.B.E. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at 12 noon on Thursday, June 20th, at St John's Church, Ladbroke Grove.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

SOSNOW - April 24th 1988, Sylvia. In loving memory of a darling mother. Sadly missed by her daughter Fiona, grandchildren Alexandra and Norman Richard, son-in-law Ronnie, family and friends.

VALK - Diana, died 24th April 1990. In loving remembrance, her sons Robin and William and their families.

BIRTHDAYS

BRETT Happy thirtysomething birthday. Ditto. Nut.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CHARMING pretty 8yr old with no marrying relations longs to be a bridesmaid. Please help! Box No 3519

MANASSEH : GEORGE - On Saturday April 20th, 1991, Phineas, youngest son of Leonard and Sarah Manasseh, to Arlette, eldest daughter of Rodney and Maria George. The ceremony and reception were held at the Arts Club, Dover Street, W1.

NMS NETWORK - Quantity League Qtr 2. 1. Newcastle 200%. 2. Leeds 100%. 3. Canterbury 67%. 4. Greater London 62%. 5. Liverpool 60%. 6. Reading 57%. 7= Glasgow 40%. 7= Manchester 40%. 9= North London 38%. 9= Birmingham 38%. 11. Belfast 25%. 12. Croydon 0%. 13. Wessex -25%. 14. Bristol -33%. 15. Sheffield -50%. 16. Maidstone -167%.

NMS NETWORK - Quality League Qtr 2. 1. Newcastle 439 points. 2= Glasgow 250 points. 2= Croydon 250 points. 4. Reading 225 points. 5= Wessex 125 points. 5= Belfast 125 points. 5= Manchester 125 points. 8. Birmingham 115 points. 9. Maidstone 107 points. 10. Leeds 100 points. 11= Canterbury 0. 11= Bristol 0. 11= Sheffield 0. 11= Liverpool 0. 11= Greater London 0. 11= North London 0.

RESEARCHER seeks people with experience of working with Time-Share companies. Please Reply to Box No 3482

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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The Mental Health Foundation finances vital research into the causes and treatment of stress and mental illness, as well as funding care and rehabilitation schemes in the community.
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APRIL 24 ON THIS DAY 1942

Archbishop William Temple (1881-1944), son of Archbishop Frederick Temple, was admired far beyond the bounds of the Church of England for his preaching, his writings and for his warm personality. He died after only a few years as archbishop.

THE PRIMATE ENTHRONED

Seen against the background of the greatest war, the enthronement of Dr. William Temple in Canterbury Cathedral to-day stood out all the more challengingly in its witness to the continuity of Christian tradition. But it would be truer to think of the noble ceremony as itself part of the enduring background of our civilization, against which even the war might appear no more than a gigantic irrelevancy.

Dr. Temple is the ninety-sixth Archbishop of Canterbury. His inheritance is in that degree greater than that of any predecessor in the office; and the sense of continuity and cumulation, which was the note of to-day's enthronement, was strengthened by the accident — if hereditary gifts can be called accidental — that Dr. Temple's father before him was Archbishop of Canterbury.

In his sermon this afternoon Dr. Temple spoke of his father as, among men, the chief inspiration of his life. The kneeling effigy of Frederick Temple is in the corona of the cathedral, though to-day hidden under sandbags. His invisible presence must have been felt as a reality by many who were here this afternoon.

FANFARES OF TRUMPETS

The nave and choir were filled, the choir with the members of the foundation and privileged guests, including the honoured representatives of other Christian communions at home and oversea and of many sides of public life.

The enthronement followed — a threefold ceremony. The Primate was taken by the hand by Archdeacon or Dean, and successively seated in his own canopied choir seat, in the Dean's stall, and lastly in "St. Augustine's Throne," the ancient chair of Purbeck stone set for the occasion at the top of the steps before the screen, in full view of the congregation in the nave.

Midway through the enthronement ceremonies, while the choir sang "The hour cometh, and now it is, when true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth," Dr. Temple knelt for a space at a small fald-stool of red velvet set near the west end of the choir. Trumpets sounded again after the enthronement. The Te Deum Laudamus in Vaughan Williams's setting — composed for the enthronement of Archbishop Lang in 1928 — was sung to the music of organ, drums, and brass; and organ and trumpets again bust forth in unison to lead the hymn, "Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow."

Dr. Temple preached from the text, "The nations shall walk by the light thereof." The world was learning its helplessness apart from God, he said, though not yet was it on any great scale turning to Him for direction or for strength. The secular movement of the world was not towards peace or mutual understanding and appreciation, rather was it towards more intense and fiercer competition, conflict, and war between larger and ever larger concentrations of power, economic or military, or both.

"This is not the moment to say much about the war," continued Dr. Temple. "But a German victory, in Germany's present mood, would mean the end of that ecumenical Christian movement and all the hopes connected with it. This is no guess; it is the declared policy of the German State and follows of necessity from its principles. It is our duty as Christian citizens to do our utmost towards winning the war that we may keep open the possibility of a Christian civilization and maintain the hope of a fellowship pervading all nations under the allegiance of Jesus Our Lord."

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FINANCIAL NOTICES

JOHN LEWIS plc
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Registers of the 5% First and 7% Cumulative Preference Stocks of the Company WILL BE CLOSED on 3 July 1991 for the preparation of the dividend warrants.
B.J. Pritchard, Secretary
19 April 1991

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MEETING OF CREDITORS UNDER SECTION 48(2) OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
GATECLUB LIMITED
(IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
T/A FURZE HILL RESTAURANT AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, in pursuance of Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act, 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Saracens Head Hotel, High Street, Chelmsford, Essex on Friday the 3rd May 1991, at 12.00 noon for the purpose of having an account laid before them, showing the events leading up to the appointment of the Joint Administrative Receivers, the manner in which the administrative receivership has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Joint Administrative Receivers.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. A person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if he has given to the Receivers, not later than 12.00 p.m. on the business day before the above day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from either company, and this claim has been duly admitted by the Receivers. A creditor entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting may appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote instead of him.

A copy of the Report to Creditors is available from the above address on written request.

DATED this 17th day of April 1991
M. FISHMAN
Joint Administrative Receiver

D.C. TIBBLES LIMITED
Company Number: 266553
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 46(1) of The Insolvency Act 1986 that KEVIN PAUL BARRY, FCA and KEITH DAVID GOODMAN, FCA of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, were appointed Administrative Receivers of the whole of the property of the above Company on Tuesday, 16th April, 1991 by Barclays Bank PLC under the powers contained in a Debenture providing Fixed and Floating Charge dated 8th July, 1987.
Dated the 16th day of April 1991
K.P BARRY, FCA AND
K.D. GOODMAN, FCA
JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

HATTON & BAKER LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of LEONARD CURTIS & CO., situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, on Wednesday, the 1st day of May, 1991 at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq.

A list of names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated the 18th day of April 1991
TERENCE JOHN BAKER
Director

In the High Court of Justice
No 009490 of 1990
In the matter of
Orion Refiners (UK) Limited
(In Liquidation)
and
In the matter of
The Insolvency Act 1986
I, EDWARD JOHN WACEY of Buchler Phillips & Co. 84 Grosvenor Street, Lodnon W1X 9DF, was on 4 April 1991 appointed Liquidator of Orion Refiners (UK) Limited of 23/24 Stapledon Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough.
16 April 1991
E J WACEY
Liquidator

SANDPIPER LEISURE LIMITED
and
The Insolvency Act 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ on Friday the 3rd May 1991, at 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Segal Davis Rose, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from Wednesday the 1st May 1991.
Dated this 15th day of April 1991
D Finbow
Director

SCANTEC JOINERY LIMITED
-In administrative Receivership-
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the Wessex Hotel, High Street, Street, Somerset BA16 0EF on 7 May 1991 at 11.00am for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanations that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.

Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Stoy Hayward, Oakfield House, Oakfield Grove, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2BN, not later than 12.00 noon on 3 May 1991 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the Company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Philip G Byrne
Joint Administrative Receiver

STATUTORY DEMAND
(Debt for liquidated sum payable immediately following a Judgement or Order of the Court)
To B CASEY (male) t/a Gateway Mortgage & Insurance Services Address Unit 6 Railway Street, Glossop, Derbyshire SK13 9AG
TAKE NOTICE that a Statutory Demand has been issued by the Creditors:
a) Name News International (Advertisements) Limited Address PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XY
The creditor demands payment of £16,508.48 the amount now due on a Judgement of the High Court of Justice Queen's Bench Division Liverpool District Registry dated the 11 day of January 1990
b) Name Reed Northern Newspapers (Bolton/St Helens) Limited Address Newspaper House, Churchgate, Bolton, Greater Manchester
The creditor demands payment of £5,880.82 the amount now due on a Judgement of the High Court Queen's Bench Division Sheffield District Registry dated the 17th day of January 1990
c) Lancashire Publications Limited Address 25/27 Tudor Street, London, EC4Y 0HR
The creditor demands payment of £1,608.24 the amount now due on a Judgement of the High Court of Justice Queen's Bench Division Sheffield District Registry dated the 30 day of March 1990
The Statutory Demand is an important document and it is deemed to have been served on you on the date of the first appearance of this advertisement. You must deal with this demand within 21 days of the service upon you or you could be made bankrupt and your property and goods taken away from you. If you are in any doubt as to your position, you should seek advice immediately from a solicitor or your nearest Citizen's Advice Bureau.
The Statutory Demand can be obtained or is available for inspection and collection from
Name: Bermans. Address: Pioneer Buildings, 65/67 Dale Street, Liverpool L2 2NS Solicitor for the Creditors
Tel No 051 227 3351
Reference 09/65/132075/SD
You have only 21 days from the date of the first appearance of this advertisement before the creditors may present a bankruptcy petition

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
TC COOMBS & CO
A meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 at the New Connaught Rooms, 61-65 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DA on May 3, 1991 at 10.15 am to receive a report of the Joint Administrative Receivers and to decide if a committee of Creditors should be appointed.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
A written statement of claim must be lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers by 12 noon on the day before the meeting at Ernst & Young, Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.
S.J.L. Adamson and M.E. Mills
Joint Administrative Receivers
18th April 1991.

LEGAL NOTICES

PARKFIELD GROUP PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY
(IN ADMINISTRATION)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named Company will be held at The National Motorcycle Museum, Coventry Road, Bickenhill, Solihull, West Midlands B92 0EJ on 8 May 1991 at 10.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act, viz:
(a) to nominate one or more insolvency practitioners as liquidator or liquidators with power to act jointly and severally;
(b) if thought fit, to establish a liquidation Committee; and
(c) to pass any other resolution permitted by the Insolvency Rules 1986 as amended.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at the registered office as stated above between 10.00 am and 5.00 p.m. on Friday 3 May 1991 and Tuesday 7 May 1991.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge their proofs of debt and proxies at Cork Gully, PO Box 273, Southampton, Hampshire SO9 7XN no later than 12 noon on Tuesday 7 May 1991. Please note that the original proxy signed by or on behalf of the creditor must be lodged at the address mentioned: photocopies (including faxed copies) are not acceptable.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, creditors will not be entitled to vote unless their proofs have been lodged and admitted for voting purposes. While proofs may be lodged at any time before voting commences, creditors intending to vote at the meeting are requested to send them with their proxies. Unless they surrender their security, secured creditors must give particulars of their security and its value if they wish to vote at the meeting.
DATED this fifteenth day of April 1991
for and on behalf of the company
MA Jordan, MJ London, and AR Stanway
Joint Administrators

NOTICE OF MEETING OF CREDITORS UNDER SECTION 48(2) OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
IVY HILL HOTELS LTD.
(IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act, 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Saracens Head Hotel, High Street, Chelmsford, Essex on Friday the 3rd May 1991, at 11.00 a.m. for the purpose of having an account laid before them, showing the events leading up to the appointment of the Joint Administrative Receivers, the manner in which the administrative receivership has been conducted and the property of the company disposed of, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Joint Administrative Receivers.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. A person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if he has given to the Receivers, not later than 12.00 noon p.m. on the business day before the above day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debt that he claims to be due to him from either company, and this claim has been duly admitted by the Receivers. A creditor entitled to attend and vote at the above meeting may appoint a proxy or proxies to attend and vote instead of him.

A copy of the Report to Creditors is available from the above address on written request.
DATED this 17th day of April 1991
M. FISHMAN
Joint Administrative Receiver

Notice of appointment of Liquidator
Company Number: 1761209. Name of company: New Image Aluminium Ltd. Nature of business: Installers of Aluminium Shop Fronts. Type of Liquidation: Creditors' Voluntary. Address of registered office: Segal Davis Rose, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidator name and address: Richard Andrew Segal, Segal Davis Rose, Treviot House, 186-192 High Street, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ Office holder no. 002685. Date of appointment: 28th March 1991. By whom appointed: Members & Creditors.
Date: 28th March 1991
R A SEGAL
Liquidator

Notice of appointment of Liquidator
Company Number: 2197893. Name of company: Salon Carriage Company Limited. Nature of business: Car Sales. Type of Liquidation: Creditors. Address of registered office: Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ. Liquidator: Richard Andrew Segal, Segal Davis Rose, Treviot House, 186-192 High Street, Ilford, Essex IG1 1JQ Office holder no. 002685. Date of appointment: 3rd April 1991. By whom appointed: The Members and Creditors.
Date: 8th April 1991
R A SEGAL
Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receivers
Arrowpace Limited
Registered Number: 1689985
Trading Name: Steel Point. Nature of Business: Stainless Steel Stockholders. Trade Classification: 18. Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 15 April 1991. Name of person Appointing the Joint Administrative Receivers: Midland Bank Plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: Ian Peter Phillips and David Julian Buchler office holder numbers 0/00026/36/1 and 05 3134 of Buchler Phillips & Co. 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF

LEGAL NOTICES

BROMLAND LIMITED
Company Number: 2083903
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 46(1) of The Insolvency Act 1986 that KEVIN PAUL BARRY, FCA and KEITH DAVID GOODMAN, FCA of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, were appointed Administrative Receivers of the whole of the property of the above Company on Tuesday, 16th April, 1991 by Barclays Bank PLC under the powers contained in a Debenture providing Fixed and Floating Charge dated 8th July, 1987.
Dated the 16th day of April 1991
K.P BARRY, FCA AND
K.D. GOODMAN, FCA
JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

CONCEPT SPORTS LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester on Friday 3rd May 1991 at 2.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99,100 and 101 of the said Act.

Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2) (a) of the Act, Mr Denis J Kilroy and Mr Stephen Lord of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD are appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioners who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THE 18TH DAY OF APRIL 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
S E SUTTON
DIRECTOR

LONDENE LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 46(1) of The Insolvency Act 1986 that KEVIN PAUL BARRY, FCA and KEITH DAVID GOODMAN, FCA of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co., 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, were appointed Administrative Receivers of the whole of the property of the above Company on Tuesday, 16th April, 1991 by Barclays Bank PLC under the powers contained in a Debenture providing Fixed and Floating Charge dated 8th July, 1987.
Dated the 16th day of April 1991
K.P BARRY, FCA AND
K.D. GOODMAN, FCA
JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEE
THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 6.124(1)
In the matter of
Martyn Peter Ives
Court No. 6789 of 1990
Notice is hereby given that Geoffrey C A Morphitis of 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH was appointed Trustee of the above named on 13 December 1990
G C A Morphitis
TRUSTEE

OCTOPUS VIDEO COMPANY LIMITED
-In Administrative Receivership-
Registered Number: 1780341
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at The Sherlock Holmes Hotel, 108 Baker Street, London W1 on Tuesday 7 May 1991 at 10:30 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.

Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, not later than 12.00 hrs on Friday 3 May 1991 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Malcolm Cohen
Joint Administrative Receiver

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR
THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
In the matter of
DAVID CARTER ELECTRICAL LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that Francis Wessely of 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH was appointed Liquidator of the above Company on 27 March 1991
FRANCIS WESSELY
LIQUIDATOR

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF LIQUIDATOR
THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
In the matter of
THE FINE WHITE WINE LIMITED
Notice is hereby given that Francis Wessely of 401 St John Street, London EC1V 4LH was appointed Liquidator of the above Company on 5 April 1991
FRANCIS WESSELY
LIQUIDATOR

PUBLIC NOTICES

INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
Fine English Hotels Limited
(In Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Rule 3.9 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of Fine English Hotels Limited will be held at The Tollgate Motel, Watling Street, Gravesend DA13 9RA on 7 May 1991 at four o'clock in the afternoon. The Receivers' report will be presented to the meeting and the opportunity given to elect a committee to represent the creditors.

A Creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details in writing of the debt claimed to be due to him by the company have been given to the administrative receivers at The Tollgate Motel, Watling Street, Gravesend no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986. Copies of the Receivers' report will be provided free of charge to all creditors who ask the Receivers for a copy at the above address.

Creditors may vote either in person or by proxy and a proxy should be lodged with the administrative receivers if possible before the meeting. A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debts after deducting the value of his security as estimated by him. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.
Dated the 22nd day of April 1991.
Alan John Barrett
Joint Administrative Receiver

Notice of appointment of administrative Receiver
IN THE MATTER OF ARROW AGRICULTURAL LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
ARROW AGRICULTURAL LIMITED
Registered number: 1498187. Trading name: ARROW FENLAND SUPPLIES. Nature of business: AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING AND RETAILER OF GOODS. Trade classification: 22. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 21 March 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: MIDLAND BANK PLC. Joint Administrative Receivers: RICHARD JAMES REES and ROGER MARSH (office holder nos. 4620 and 6926) Address: PRICE WATERHOUSE SOUTHGATE HOUSE MILLSTONE LANE LEICESTER LE1 5QA

Notice of appointment of administrative Receiver
ORMINGTON PROPERTIES LIMITED
(IN LIQUIDATION)
Registered number: 2147027. Trading name: Ormington Properties Limited. Nature of business: Property Developer. Trade classification: 23. Date of appointment of administrative Receivers: 18 April 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Westpac Banking Corporation. Joint Administrative Receivers: Colin Graham Bird and Alan John Barrett. (office holder nos. 1257 and 1096) Address: Price Waterhouse No 1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL.

PUBLIC NOTICES

British Phonographic Industry

On 4th April 1991 Gallup notified the BPI that they had noticed unusual sales patterns in respect of three singles:

Lenny Kravitz VUS34 - Virgin
S'Express SEXY02 - Rhythm King
The High LON297 - London

Since 4th April the BPI's Investigations and those of Gallup have been continuing, and it has been decided to appoint a Committee of Enquiry to look into this matter in accordance with paragraph 7 of the BPI's Code of Conduct. The Committee of Enquiry shall consitute not less than two members nor more than four members of the following panel of qualified persons:

Terry Ellis - Chairman of the BPI
L.G. Wood - Honourary President of the BPI
Tony Hoffman - Senior Partner, Hamlin Slowe, solicitors
Frank Presland - Partner, Frere Cholmeley, solicitors
Tim Lawrence - Partner, Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, accountants

The selection will be made by the Chairman, and the BPI Council has appointed Terry Ellis to chair the Committee of Enquiry.

To Place Your Classified Advertisement

Please telephone the number listed below between 9am and 6pm Monday to Friday (late evening 7.30 pm on Thursday or between 9.30am and 12.30pm on Saturdays).
Alternatively fax your advertisement to 071 782 7828/071 481 9313

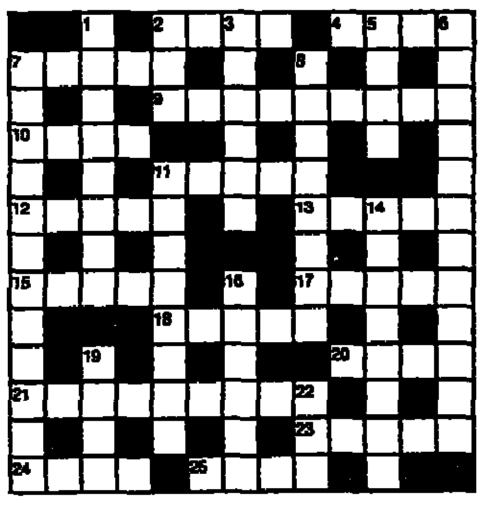
Private	071-481 4000

Trade Advertisers:

Appointments	071-481 4481
Birth, Marriage and Death Notices	071-481 4000
Business to Business	071-481 1982
International Advertisers	071-481 3024
Motors	071-481 4422
Personal	071-481 1920
Property	071-481 1986
Public Appts & Education	071-481 1066
Travel	071-481 1989
U.K. Holidays	071-488 3698

Birth and Death notices may be accepted over the telephone.
For publication the following day please telephone by 5.00pm Monday - Thursday
4.00pm Friday, 9.00 am-12.30pm Saturday for Monday's paper.
Marriage notices not appearing on the Court & Social Page may also be accepted by telephone.

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2466



ACROSS
2 Jetty (4)
4 Artistic work (4)
7 Wanderer (5)
9 Massacre (9)
10 Monster (4)
11 Toady (5)
12 Wear away (5)
13 Lawful (5)
15 Leg/foot joint (5)
17 At no time (5)
18 Damp (5)
20 Veritable (4)
21 Bait (9)
23 Ethiopian emperor (5)
24 Baking compartment (4)
25 Bauble (4)

DOWN
1 Fail to notice (8)
2 Wife's title (3)
3 Editorial comment (6)
5 Route (4)
6 Firm instructions (6,6)
7 Old Brazil capital (3,2,7)
8 Aubergine (8)
11 Ritual (8)
14 Reportage (8)
16 Split (6)
19 Years (4)
22 Finish (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 2465
ACROSS: 1 Rattle 4 Focus 8 Downward slope 9 Sparrow 10 Bear 11 Nib 13 Thin 14 Loft 17 Gap 20 Left 22 Line-out 24 Willing helper 25 Rangy 26 Smudgy
DOWN: 1 Radish 2 Towpath 3 Lowering 4 Fuse 5 Clone 6 Sherry 7 Frown 12 Blenheim 15 Footpad 16 Glower 18 Plage 19 Stormy 21 Felon 23 Wily

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

FREEDOM IS PARADISE (12): Incisive Russian drama about a reform school inmate escaping to see his father in prison. Director, Sergei Bodrov. Renoir (071-837 8402).

HAMLET (U): Mel Gibson as the moody Prince — a decent, lively performance but lacking the bold imagination that would give the film a strong reason for existing. Director, Franco Zeffirelli. Odeon Haymarket (071-839 7697).

RIFF-RAFF: Marvellous "slice of life" portrait of a building-site crew from director Ken Loach. Authentic performances from unknown players. National Film Theatre 071-928 3232).

WAR PARTY (18): Modern-day Indians are forced on the warpath in Montana. Modest pursuit movie. With Kevin Dillon, Billy Wirth; director, Franc Roddam. Cannons: Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Prince Charles (071-437 8181).

CURRENT

AMERICAN FRIENDS (PG): Nineteenth-century romance between an Oxford don (Michael Palin) and a young American (Trini Alvarado). Slender, charming, tasteful Metro (071-437 0757) Odeons: Haymarket (071-839 7697) Mezzanine (071-930 6111).

◆ **THE BONFIRE OF THE VANITIES (15):** Brian DePalma's shrivelled, cartoon-like version of Tom Wolfe's novel. Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324) Warner (071-439 0791)

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (U): Gérard Depardieu masterful as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano, director Jean-Paul Rappeneau transforms Rostand's play into magnificent, swashbuckling cinema. Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Premiere (071-439 4470) Renoir (071-837 8402).

◆ **DANCES WITH WOLVES (12):** Kevin Costner as the Civil War lieutenant sucked into the Sioux's way of life. Over-reverent, though Costner mounts his directional debut with aplomb. Winner of seven Oscars. Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861) Odeon Marble Arch (071-723 2011) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Warner (071-439 0791) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

THE FIELD (12): Richard Harris in Thirties Ireland, fighting for his land. Grandly visualised, but windy drama; from the *My Left Foot* team. Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Minema (071-235 4225) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

◆ **THE GODFATHER PART III (15):** Brooding finale to Francis Ford Coppola's Mafia saga, handsomely staged but lacking resonance. Al Pacino, Andy Garcia, Talia Shire Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999).

◆ **GREEN CARD (12):** *Marriage of convenience becomes unbearable when slobbish Gérard Depardieu moves in with uptight Andie MacDowell. Likeable New York romantic comedy.* Barbican (071-638 8891) Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Plaza (071-497 9999) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324) Warner (071-439 0791).

JU DOU (15): Lust and revenge in a Chinese dye factory. Extraordinary, compelling drama from Zhang Yimou, director of *Red Sorghum*. ICA Cinema (071-930 3647).

LIFE IS SWEET (15): Ups and downs of a North London family, depicted by master caricaturist Mike Leigh. Droll, farcical, at times oddly moving. Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) Gate (071-727 4043) Lumière (071-836 0691).

Q & A (18): Corruption and racism in New York's justice system. Electrifying performances (Nick Nolte, Armand Assante), though the end result carries less punch. Director, Sidney Lumet. Warner (071-439 0791).

SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY (15): Sleekly mounted but facile woman-in-peril thriller. Julia Roberts as the abused wife who fakes her own death. Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Leicester Square (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905)

TATIE DANIELLE (15): Agreeable, satirical portrait of a spiteful old woman, deliciously played by French stage veteran Tsilla Chelton Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Metro (071-437 0757) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London

■ House full, returns only
▨ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

▨ **CARMEN JONES:** Classy production of the Hammerstein/Bizet all-black musical, packed with pizzazz. Old Vic, Waterloo Road, SE1 (071-928 7616). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm.

☐ **CAT WITH GREEN VIOLIN:** Patchy play about obsessive cat artist Louis Wain. Some wonderful lines. Orange Tree, 1 Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 165mins.

☐ **CORIOLANUS/THE WINTER'S TALE:** Two variable productions by English Shakespeare Company: though strong performances by Michael Pennington in both. Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). *Coriolanus*: Sat, 7.30pm; *Winter's Tale*: tonight-Fri, 7.30pm, mat today, 2.30pm. 195mins.

☐ **THE CURE AT TROY:** Seamus Heaney's fine reworking of *Philoctetes*: a cogent drama of trust and betrayal. Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000). Mon-Sat, 8pm. 80mins.

☐ **DANCING AT LUGHNASA:** Brian Friel's award-winning memory-play set in 1930s Donegal. Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1044). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

☐ **DAYS OF HOPE:** Howard Goodall's solemn musical about self-sacrifice in the Spanish Civil War. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 105mins.

☐ **DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER:** Simon Cadell in average, French-boulevard stuff. Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-437 2663). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 135mins.

☐ **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE:** Ibsen reset in Wales. Good acting from Geraint Wyn Davies, odd production. Lyric Hammersmith, King Street, W6 (081-741 2311). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm.

☐ **THE HOMECOMING:** Warren Mitchell and others ensnared by Cherie Lunghi in Peter Hall's Pinter revival. Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 135mins.

☐ **A JAMAICAN AIRMAN FORESEES HIS DEATH:** Scottish racism in the second world war: nicely acted though over-literary. Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm. 145mins.

☐ **JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL:** Peter O'Toole back playing the drunk-about-town columnist. Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Fri, 8.30pm, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm. 130mins.

☐ **THE LUCKY SPOT:** Funny and stylish comedy by Beth Henley, set in a seedy Louisiana dance hall. Attic, The Ballroom, 103 Broadway, SW19 (081-542 6141). Mon-Sat, 8pm. 135mins. Final week.

▨ **MATADOR:** The rise of The Boy from Nowhere: great dancing and sets but a weak second half. Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5040). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4.30pm. 150mins.

☐ **MY LOVELY . . . SHAYNA MAIDEL:** An Auschwitz survivor re-united with her family: Anita Dobson in an accomplished and powerful play. Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 135mins.

☐ **OUR OWN KIND:** Charlotte Coleman as a bright schoolgirl caught up in a racial murder: Roy MacGregor's promising first play. Final week. Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm. 140mins.

▨ **RE: JOYCE!:** Maureen Lipman's pleasing ramble around Joyce Grenfell. Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9988). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

☐ **RICK'S BAR CASABLANCA:** Leslie Grantham a wooden central figure in the original play on which the film was based. Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 6pm. 125mins.

▨ **SILLY COW:** Ben Elton's awkward collection of one-liners, centred around Dawn French. Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.45pm. 130mins.

▨ **TOP GIRLS:** Caryl Churchill's pungent play revealing the opportunities missed in women's fight for power. Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 135mins.

▨ **TWELFTH NIGHT:** Peter Hall's sensitive production with Eric Porter, Dinsdale Landen, David Ryall. Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

■ **THE VISIT:** Théâtre de Complicité's triumph in Dürrenmatt's black comedy. Olivier Award-winner. National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.15pm. 175mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . . ☐ Blood Brothers: Albery (071-867 1115) . . . ☐ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ▨ Cats: New London (071-405 0072) . . . ■ *Five Guys Named Moe*: Lyric (071-494 5045) . . . ☐ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-836 8108) . . . ☐ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) . . . ☐ The Rehearsal: Garrick (071-379 6107). . . ☐ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . ☐ The Rocky Horror Show: Piccadilly (071-867 1118) . . . ☐ Run For Your Wife: Duchess (071-836 8243) . . . ☐ Shirley Valentine: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . . ☐ A Slice of Saturday Night: Arts (071-836 2132). . . ▨ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ☐ What the Butler Saw: Wyndham's (071-867 1116) . . . ☐ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information supplied by Society of West End Theatre

TODAY'S EVENTS

PETER GRIMES: Tim Albery's impressive abstract vision of Britten's opera is vividly performed by the ENO orchestra and cast, conducted by David Atherton. Distinctive performances from Philip Langridge as the protagonist and Josephine Barstow as Ellen Orford. Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), 7.30pm.

ANDRAS SCHIFF: The Hungarian pianist, one of the foremost exponents of Bach on the modern piano, plays the third of four concerts covering the works of J S Bach. Wigmore Hall, Wigmore Street, London W1 (071-935 2141), 7.30pm.

ARTHUR DAVIES: The tenor joins The Smetana Piano Trio of London for the first performances of two works by Marjolyn Anstey. Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 8pm.

EDWARD II: Previews begin for Gerard Murphy's acclaimed production of the Christopher Marlowe play which has transferred from Stratford. Simon Russell Beale embraces the complexities of King Edward. The Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891), 7.30pm.

ONNAGATA: Performance artist Lindsay Kemp's latest production is a virtual one-man show that creates a grotesque and erotic world, inspired by Japanese Kabuki theatre. Kimonos, silk drapes, fans and masks of Kabuki are incorporated with dance, theatre, mime and music-hall. Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916), 7.30pm.

STING: He has abandoned the quasi-jazz showband approach and assembled a leaner four-piece group, more like the Police in style. Hammersmith Odeon, Queen Caroline Street, London W6 (071-748 4081), 7.30pm.

TWILIGHT OF THE TSARS: In the two decades before the Russian Revolution, the local avant-garde art movement included Art Nouveau architects, artist-craftsmen who went back to the land and the peasant for inspiration, and painters who wildly mixed and matched styles from all over the world. This fine show of Russian art at the turn of the century covers it all, reflecting an heroic past and a feisty revolution Hayward Gallery, South Bank Centre, London SE1 (071-928 3144), 10am-8pm.

THE TRUE NORTH/UN-NATURAL TRACES: Canada's Big Brother complex about the United States has included a tendency to be defensive about its national art. The Barbican's twin shows — one covering Canadian landscape painting from 1896-1939, and the other contemporary Canadian art — demonstrate that some trumpet-blowing is in order: artists such as Fred Varley, Emily Carr and Lawren Harris can well hold their own against all competition. Barbican Art Gallery, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 4141), 10am-6.45pm.

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA: In celebration of Shakespeare's 427th birthday (yesterday), the Merseyside Everyman and Talawa Theatre Company present Britain's first all-black production of *Antony and Cleopatra*, directed by Yvonne Brewster. Everyman Theatre, Hope Street, Liverpool (051-709 4776), 7.30pm.

SHEILA FELL: Fell was an isolated figure on the British art scene, and when she died in 1979, at the age of 48, the only movement she had ever been vaguely related to was "kitchen sink" realism. After a decade of neglect, her passionate, Expressionistic landscapes of her beloved Cumbria and her rapt, mystical evocations of snowy nights and secret cottages look better than ever. Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal, Cumbria (0539 722464), 10.30am-5pm.

Megalomaniac without menace

THEATRE

The Government Inspector
Greenwich

EVER since its first performance in 1836, when one actor played Gogol's corrupt mayor seriously and the others did vaudeville turns, directors have struggled to find a style for *The Government Inspector*. The play has been staged naturalistically and farcically, as proto-socialist satire, as Freudian nightmare and, in a famous production by Meyerhold, as a blend of harlequinade, opera and futurist ballet. If Matthew Francis's revival at Greenwich tends towards the grotesque, at times too far for my taste, he is unquestionably in good company.

Moreover, he sustains his interpretation with great brio, helped by Lez Brotherston's revolving set, a red-stained mix of flimsy timber, slanting floors, askew onion-domes, twisted drainpipes and collapsing boardwalks, with what seems to be a mummified beggar at the back and is certainly a large puddle at the front. Mud covers the boots and coats of Patrick O'Connell's growling Mayor, Frank Moorey's slimy Charity Commissioner, Arthur Cox's country-squire Judge, and the rest of Gogol's cringing, blustering potentates. In a less literal way, it is also splattered all over their characters. This is Francis's Impressionistic portrait of the provincial Russia to which Nicholas I was bringing a bit of perestroika, a place where incompetence, greed and nepotism were almost as rife as now.

Timothy Spall plays Khlestakov, the clerk mistaken by the town for a tsarist snoop, as an overblown brat sunk deep first in self-pity, then in narcissistic self-regard. Penniless and hungry, he whines, fatuously gurgles, limp-wristedly flaps his paws. Even when he is being fêted by O'Connell's mayor, or blithely courted by Polly Adams's smug mayoress, his voice is apt to shift from the fake-pompous to the precious to the namby-pamby, at times taking on the adenoidal lisp of the late Kenneth Williams. Drunk, he lurches and reels goofily round the stage, only to end floundering on the floor, a big baby that chews the carpet as it tries helplessly to get up and walk.

A tendency to suck his finger, play with his long, lank hair, and goggle like someone tasting his first Smartie, completes the display of bravura infantilism. It is a splendid performance — but (asks a small voice) is it altogether justified? His own recorded comments suggest that Gogol saw both the part and the play in rather more realistic terms. Would even hicks from the sticks think this gormless blob a grand inquisitor? Should not Spall at least add a bit of menace to his megalomaniac fantasies? Would that not make a more biting and more plausible evening?

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

DONALD COOPER

Infantile: Timothy Spall as Khlestakov (right), with Bob Goody as Osip

THEATRE

Eden Cinema
Offstage Downstairs

LIKE several of Marguerite Duras' other plays, this came into the world as prose fiction and was eventually rewritten by her for the theatre. Like almost all of them, it could be accused by traditionalists of inhabiting some airy hinterland between the shelf and the stage. After all, much of the evening consists of a brother and sister describing their troubled, tangled upbringing, while actors playing their junior selves cluster round "the Mother". The murmur of reminiscence often replaces the crackle of conflict.

And why not? Duras is one of those dramatists who has remapped the boundaries of the theatrically permissible. If we have come to accept that feeling can be evoked no less legitimately, and sometimes more effectively, by narrative than by a neat plot, it is largely because of the likes of *Eden Cinema*. Why so fascinating a play has taken 16 years to cross from Paris to London is hard to tell.

Duras is best known for her handling of the kind of elusive, shifting feelings that made her *Hiroshima Mon Amour* so haunting. *Eden Cinema* has its subtleties too, but at its centre is something fiercer. The subject, as often with the French, is a passion for land. The Mother is encouraged by a venal colonial adminstration to put her life-savings into an Indo-Chinese rice-paddy, only to find it periodically swamped by the ocean. Hope escalates into obsession. Never mind that the object of the exercise is to provide for her daughter. Before long this mother is ready to sacrifice everything for the cash that will buy a concrete sea-wall, down to the girl herself.

No wonder Julia Foster looks so drawn and ruminates so gravely from the big, square sand-pit on which Susan Todd has set the play. Emma Rice, playing herself at 16, is a few feet away, luring a lovelorn planter to marry her and, when he refuses, extracting from him the gift of a diamond. The striking second act involves her mother's desperate attempts to sell first this gem, then her daughter's favours. By the end, Pacific salt has shown it can shrivel souls as well as spoil crops.

That there are lacunae in the text is not surprising. Duras' habit of understatement means, for instance, that the somewhat incestuous relationship between sister and brother goes only half-acknowledged. But Doreen Mantle, though she looks stricken and forlorn enough, could do more to find the anger as well as the bewilderment in the mother's obsession. This is, after all, a woman who ends her days threatening the Department of Land Concessions with mass murder.

Again, other members of Todd's cast sometimes take on the throbbing tones of people who think that duty calls them to be earnest. Simpler, snappier delivery could only help a play that is about a past much more painfully alive than they reveal.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

TELEVISION

A Secret World of Sex
BBC 2

"WE KNEW more about India and the British Empire than we knew about our own bodies." So lamented Ray Rochford, an old-age pensioner reminiscing about the bad old days of sexual ignorance in last night's *A Secret World of Sex* — a sort of *Yesterday's Witness* on pre-1950 sexual taboos. Mooching around his old classroom in Salford, he recalled how a Catholic minister used to stand in front of the uncomprehending class, haranguing them on the perils of "self-abuse". "We didn't know what he was talking about," he said. "We thought he meant hitting ourselves with a hammer."

Perhaps it should be called *A Secret World of Euphemisms*, since beating about the bush was surely the main culprit in many of these people's sexual misfortunes, adding mystification to the already heavy burden of cluelessness. When mothers told their daughters not to "bring home trouble", they did not mean "don't offer accommodation to counterfeiters" — but how was a girl to know? Strangely, the old people telling their stories of pre-marital sex and unwanted pregnancy generally betrayed little retrospective anger about all this. Just one woman seemed bitter — when she remembered how, because she was pregnant, she was denied a proper wedding. "We get over these things," she said, but her teeth were gritted, and the platitude was unconvincing.

These were the good old days when getting knocked up could lead to getting locked up, too. This was news to me, I must confess. Girls discovered having sex (or babies) under the age of consent could be sectioned under the Mental Defectives Act of 1913, purely on grounds of feeble-mindedness.

One of last night's interviewees was a woman who had been put inside mainly on the grounds that her grandfather was a nasty old man. "Shut her away," he said, when he found out she had been having sex. "I never wanted her at home, and I don't want her now." Fair enough, said the court, and admitted her to a mental hospital. This was in 1936. She was not released until 1959, when the Mental Defectives Act was repealed.

A Secret World of Sex is the sort of programme where the presentation is commonplace yet the material is dynamite. It is certainly not every day you are treated to an old man's sentimental journey around Greenwich Park, revisiting old trysting places and lovingly recalling a mid-coital whoopsadaisy involving a rickety park bench.

My favourite story was told by a woman who remembered accompanying her boyfriend to an apparently empty field and then being alarmed to hear a policeman blowing a whistle and shouting, "Everybody out". At which, she said, dozens of blushing couples leapt up out of nowhere, and headed for the gate like a football crowd.

LYNNE TRUSS

CONCERT

Menuhin Birthday Celebration
Festival Hall

SIR Yehudi Menuhin characteristically had an ear to the future when he began his 75th birthday concert on Monday night with a small orchestra of students from his own Menuhin School for talented musicians in Surrey: two thirds of them women, as it happened, and half of those oriental.

The Queen Mother and the Duchess of Kent were among an audience that heard them give a spirited account of Bach's Double Violin Concerto. Almost 60 years separated Sir Yehudi from his student solo partner, Sara Bitlloch, a 16-year-old Catalan, but the performance was one of elegant blend and balance between the soloists, though with not enough lift to the rhythm to make the finale a siciliano rather than a barcarolle.

The ever-aspiring birthday musician was the poet as well as the conductor for the British premiere of *Prayer*, for which he wrote the text of a typically humanist invocation to such "blessing, affection and protection as would satisfy a thousand lives". It was set by the Moscow composer Rodion Shchedrin as a choral cantata, and first given in the Soviet capital last month before it became a late addition to this programme, which was sponsored by Midland Montagu.

The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, which assembled for this under Sir Yehudi (its president), looked extravagantly large, but it was sparingly used to complement the London Choral Society in a reticent, strangely sombre expression of hope and faith.

Most of its interest lay in the changing texture of voices and instruments, though with too little variety of pace or rhythm to illuminate the character of the verse. A coda for solo violin was expressively played by the orchestra's leader, Erich Gruenberg.

Lord Palumbo, chairman of the Arts Council, gave a brief birthday tribute, before Sir Yehudi launched into that most joyful of celebrations, Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. With wind instruments doubled to four of each, strings to match and the Royal Choral Society added to the LCS, it was a far cry from Saturday's compact Harnoncourt performance.

The Menuhin version favoured an urgent, cataclysmic approach, except in an Adagio of generous emotional intensity and, oddly, at the start of the choral finale. The choirs were eventually roused to vociferous tub-thumping, even if the solo quartet of Ruth Falcon, Kathleen McKeller-Ferguson, Richard Margison and Thomas Thomaschke proved less than ideally matched.

NOEL GOODWIN

Arts features, page 14,15

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 24

LEVIGATE
(a) To reduce to a fine smooth powder, from the Latin *levigare* to make smooth: "Shells levigated by the friction of the particles."

PLACKET
(c) An opening or slit at the top of a skirt or petticoat, for convenience in putting on and off, a variant of *placard*; *King Lear*: "Keepe thy hand out of plackets."

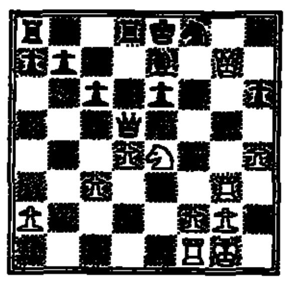
PALISADES
(c) Name of the lofty cliffs extending about 15 miles along the western bank of the Hudson above New York, also similar formations elsewhere, from the French *palisser* to enclose with pales: "The mighty river, at first hemmed in by lofty cliffs, called the palisades, which look like coloured palings erected by Nature to keep within bounds the stream."

COFFLE
(b) A train of men or beasts fastened together, a chain-gang of slaves, from the Arabic *qafilah* a travelling company: "The black slave-ship's foul and loathsome hell/And coffle's weary chain."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Korchnoi — Peterson, USSR 1965. How can white finish matters off immediately?



Solution: 1 Qxe7+! Kxe7 2 Rg7+ Ke8 3 Nf6 mate

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 cc 071 240 5258 cc 1st Call 071 240 7200 (24hr / 7 day) 071 379 4444
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Ton't 7.30 PETER GRIMES
Tomor 7.00 DON GIOVANNI

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066 / 1911. Standby info 836 6903. 65 amphi seats avail on the day
THE ROYAL OPERA Tomor 6.30 Boris Godunov "Theatrical thunder & lightning" (FT). Tkts from £20. Fri 1.00 Young Singers at the ROH: Dimitri Kharitonov 7.00 Carmen

THEATRES

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Anita Dobson Peter O'Brien
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Previews from May 8th OPENS WED MAY 15th
EDWARD FOX
TIM BROOKE-TAYLOR
in
THE PHILANTHROPIST
by Christopher Hampton
Directed by Kenneth Ives
Evgs Mon-Fri 8.00, Mat Thurs 3.00, Sats 5.00 & 8.30
FOR A LIMITED SEASON

WYNDHAMS 071 867 1116 CC 071 379 4444/793 1000 (No Fee) & 24hr CC 836 2428 (Bkg Fee)
SHEILA GISH CLIVE FRANCIS
JOSEPH MAHER in
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW
by JOE ORTON
Evgs 8.00 Fri & Sats 6.00 & 8.40
LAST WEEK ENDS SAT

ART GALLERIES

ROY MILLES GALLERY
29 Bruton St, W1 071 495 4747
ZHU GUANG
New Works from Tibet
Mon-Fri 10-6, Sats 10-1

KING STREET GALLERIES 17 King St, SW1. 071-930 9392. Exhibition of CAT PAINTINGS by Contemporary British Artists Until 11 May. Mon-Fri 9.30-6. Sats 10-1.

SPINK, King Street, St. James's SW1. Exhibitions: Alexander Creswell, The Silent Houses Of Britain Until 26th April. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30

CINEMAS

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St. off Charing Cross Rd 071 240 9661 Maynard Eziashi, Pierce Brosnan & Edward Woodward in Bruce Beresford's MISTER JOHNSON (12) Progs at 1.55 (not Sun) 4.10, 6.20 & 8.30 Last Week. From Fri WINGS OF FAME (15)

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Paul Newman Joanne Woodward in Merchant Ivory's MR AND MRS BRIDGE (PG) Progs at 1.00 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.40 Last Weeks

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 071 439 4805 Beverly D'Angelo, Donal McCann in Neil Jordan's THE MIRACLE (15) Progs at 1.45 (not Sun) 3.50 6.10 & 8.30

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BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News
9.05 Gloria Live. Gloria Hunniford with her daily mix of music, studio discussions and chat. Includes a performance by the all-male American dance troupe Adonis: The Men of Hollywood 9.50 Dish of the Day. Cookery hints
10.00 News and weather 10.05 Playdays. For the under-fives (r) 10.25 Bump. Cartoon about a clumsy elephant (r) 10.35 Turnabout (r)
11.00 News regional news and weather 11.05 People Today. Magazine programme presented by Adrian Mills and Debi Jones
12.00 News, regional news and weather 12.05 Happy Memories. Cliff Michelmore and Wendy Gibson use archive material to rekindle older people's memories 12.20 Scene Today. Judy Spiers and Alan Titchmarsh present live entertainment from the studios of Pebble Mill. Due to appear are Shirley Bassey, Ruby Wax and Stuart Hall 12.55 Regional News and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News *and weather*
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) 1.50 Turnabout. Rob Curling with another round of the fast-moving quiz
2.15 Knots Landing. Glossy American soap set in a suburban cul-de-sac. Abby has confessed to Peter Hollister's murder but Gary and Mack have their doubts
3.05 Snooker. Live coverage of the Embassy World Professional championship from the Crucible, Sheffield. Continues on BBC2 at 4.00
3.50 Henry's Cat. Cartoon (r) 3.55 WildBunch. Violet, Mark and children from Potters Green Primary School, Coventry, learn about mammals 4.10 Litt'l Bits. Cartoon adventures of pixies in an enchanted forest 4.30 The Movie Game. Jonathon Morris presents the quiz for young movie buffs
5.00 Newsround 5.05 Tom's Midnight Garden. Episode four of the six-part children's drama serial (r) (Ceefax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather
6.30 Regional News. Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Wogan with Irish entertainer Eamon Morrissey, former Radio Caroline executive Ian Ross, and a song from Frances Nero
7.35 Doogie Howser MD. American drama with Neil Patrick Harris as the teenage medic
8.00 Police Rescue. Action-packed police drama from Australia starring Gary Sweet as Sgt Mickey McLintock of Sydney's Police Rescue service. After talking down a potential suicide from a tall building, Sweet faces the tatters of his own life in the form of a failed marriage and work problems. The would-be jumper and Sweet become drinking buddies and learn they have more than a little in common. With Steve Bastoni, Tim McKenzie, Sonia Todd and Philip Quast
8.50 Points of View presented by Anne Robinson
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather

Wife died of Aids after a blood transfusion: Jon Wray (9.30pm)

9.30 Inside Story: Aids in the Family.

● CHOICE: *Aids in the Family* shows how the second wave of the disease has reached heterosexuals, particularly those with haemophilia who have contracted the virus through transfusion, and is no longer an extraordinary problem. One interviewee says that as human beings we don't deal with death very well, which, in the end, is the subject of this film. That, and the understated bravery of those involved — not least of the problems is overcoming a British reserve and talking about an illness that has sexual connotations. People describe watching those they love die; others, who never thought they weere at obvious risk, tell how they cope with being diagnosed HIV positive, and of the effects on their children. The illness, the commentary tells us, is fastest spreading among heterosexuals, and is now a family problem soon, perhaps, it will be the biggest killer of young adults in Britain

10.20 Sportsnight. Steve Rider introduces highlights from the day's European football semi-finals and Gary Lineker reflects on his England goal-scoring achievements to date. There is action from the Embassy world snooker championship in Sheffield with Jimmy White in the concluding frames of his first round match; and there are previews of the cricket season and this weekend's Rugby League challenge cup final 12.00 Weather

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Social Sciences — Foundation Course. Ends at 7.35
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster
9.00 Schools on Two
2.00 News and weather followed by You and Me. Series for four and five-year-olds
2.15 Snooker: The Embassy World Professional Championship The fifth day of this tournament from the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield and "The Whirlwind" Jimmy White makes his first appearance
3.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live 3.50 News, regional news and weather
4.00 Snooker: The Embassy World Professional Championship. Further coverage from the Crucible
5.10 Horizon: Inside Chernobyl Sarcophagus. Five years after the Chernobyl disaster, *Horizon* takes viewers inside the plant and follows Soviet scientists still working on the radioactive ruins The reactor was encased in a huge concrete and steel shell but the 135 tons of plutonium and uranium are still molten and may be causing cracks in this modern-day sarcophagus (r) (Ceefax)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation — The Outrageous Okona. The starship *Enterprise* picks up Captain Okona (William Campbell), the only occupant of a disabled cargo vessel The charming Okona soon wins many friends among the crew but when two ships from opposing planets both demand his surrender for various crimes, Captain Picard (Patrick Stewart) is faced with a dilemma (Ceefax)
6.45 DEF II begins with Reportage The current series of the youth-oriented magazine programme from Manchester comes to an end with a compilation of highlights from the previous 16 weeks 7.35 Rapido. Antoine de Caunes presents this edition in the series devoted to the world of popular music in his unusual and amusing version of the English language. There are reports on Seal, *Electronic and the European music scene*
8.00 The Maze: Enemies Within. A repeat showing for Peter Taylor's documentary about life in the Maze prison. (Ceefax)

Amazing grace: the Loyalist prisoners' flute band (8.00pm)

9.00 Snooker: The Embassy World Professional Championship. Further coverage of the fifth day's action from Sheffield
9.30 Sleepers: On the Run.

● CHOICE: Warren Clarke has developed from playing straight heavies into a heavy actor with a surprisingly light touch, good at slow confusion and bewilderment at being so put upon, as demonstrated in *Nice Work* Latecomers to *Sleepers* may have *trouble working out what exactly is going on but the elements are* clear enough a chase the length of Britain where no expense has been spared in the locations department (high street car chases by night); a classy supporting cast led by Michael Gough and David Calder, by now so familiar at playing Russians that he attempts this one with a Russo-American accent, and slick (heavy on reflections), but not too tricksy, camera work by Remi Adefarasin. In spite of its spy thriller elements — pursuit by Russian, American and English secret services — *Sleepers* is really a comedy of class, another *Odd Couple* vehicle Emphasis is on the north-south divide, with Clarke's straight Mancunian in reluctant tandem with smooth city slicker Nigel Havers, doing a distracted David Niven (Ceefax)

10.20 Fifth Column. Jerusalem-based Palestinian lawyer and writer Raja Shihadeh talks about the effect of the Gulf war on the Palestinians in the occupied territories and argues that human rights abuses have been overlooked by the international community
10.30 Newsnight presented by Jeremy Paxman
11.15 The Late Show The arts and media magazine programme which, in a special edition, features German satirist and songwriter Wolf Biermann in conversation with Nigel Williams. Exiled from East Germany in the Seventies, Biermann stands as a critic of both East and West
11.55 Weather
12.00 Open University: Childbirth and Contraception — Choices and Changes 12.25am Knowledge-Based Systems. Ends at 12.55

ITV

6.00 TV-am
9.25 Lucky Ladders. Word association quiz hosted by Lennie Bennett 9.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion hosted by Anna Soubry
10.40 This Morning. Family magazine programme presented live from Liverpool's Albert Dock by Ross Kelly and Sally Bowman
12.10 Allsorts. Children's entertainment with Jiffy Bonzo and Jane (r)
12.30 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather 1.10 Thames News and weather
1.20 Home and Away Australian community 1.50 A Country Practice. Australian drama set in a rural community health clinic
2.20 Take the High Road. Scottish drama series set in the Highlands 2.50 Jumble. Cryptic cartoon game show hosted by Jeff Stevenson
3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 The Young Doctors. Australian medical drama
3.55 Bugs Bunny and Friends (r) 4.15 Garfield and Friends (r) 4.40 Palace Hill. Offbeat school comedy about a royal princess from another planet who crashlands her spaceship in the school corridor
5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the general knowledge quiz for sixth-formers
5.40 News with Carol Barnes (Oracle) Weather
5.55 Thames Help Jackie Spreckley with details of the Chest, Heart and Stroke Association
6.00 Home and Away (r)
6.30 Thames News

Innocent or guilty? the colourful murder suspects (7.00pm)

7.00 Cluedo. First of a new series of the murder mystery game presented by Chris Tarrant. The stars include Rula Lenska, David McCallum, Koo Stark and Mollie Sugden with celebrity sleuths Sally Whittaker, Matthew Kelly and Michaela Strachan
7.30 Coronation Street. (Oracle)
8.00 The Match. The European Cup Winners' Cup semi-final second leg game between Manchester United, three goals in front after the first leg, against the Polish cupholders Legia Warsaw live from Old Trafford Brian Moore and Ian St John are the commentators, Elton Welsby is the host and Dennis Law provides analysis
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Julia Somerville. (Oracle) Weather 10.30 Thames News and weather
10.40 Film: Agatha Christie's Dead Man's Folly (1986) Made-for-television murder mystery starring Peter Ustinov as the Belgian super-sleuth Hercule Poirot *A make-believe murder hunt turns into* a macabre reality when two bodies are found and the long-buried corpse of another is exhumed Constance Cummings, as a mysterious dowager, makes a rare appearance on film With Tim Pigott-Smith and Jean Stapleton Directed by Clive Donner
12.25am Visions. Repeat showing of the religious magazine programme (r)
12.55 Film: Stone Cold Dead (1982) Canadian murder thriller starring Richard Crenna as Detective Sergeant Boyd, assigned to track down a serial killer (Paul Williams) whose peculiar quirk is killing prostitutes and photographing the crime at the precise moment of death. Also starring Linda Sorenson, Belinda J Montgomery and Charles Shamata Directed by George Mendeluk
2.45 Videofashion. Jeanette Castenberg and model Katoucha with creations in velvet, brocade, lace and metallics
3.10 America's Top Ten
3.40 Quiz Night. The pub and club quiz show, hosted by Martin Roberts
4.10 Stephen King's This is Horror. A selection of highpoints from Britain's finest horror actors
4.40 Soccer in the 70s. Gary Lineker takes a look back to the memorable season of 1974-75 with soccer stars of the Seventies Alan Mullery, Gerry Francis and Frank Worthington
5.10 Fifty Years On (b/w). A look back at the events making the headlines in April 1941 as depicted by the vintage newsreel clips of the day
5.30 ITN Morning News with Tim Neilson. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 Schools
12.00 The Parliament Programme
12.30 Business Daily presented by Susannah Simons
1.00 Sesame Street. The guest is Itzhak Perlman
2.00 Road Dreams Elliott Bristow continues his journey round America from New England to Oregon and on to California
2.30 Film: The Harvey Girls (1946 b/w) A musical based on a true legend of the west Hundreds of groups of waitresses were brought from the east to the west by the entrepreneur Fred Harvey to entertain, bring romance and feminism to the Wild West Judy Garland stars as one such waitress in this classic MGM musical with lyrics by Arthur Freed who was responsible for the *Ziegfeld Follies* and *Babes in Arms* With Angela Lansbury and John Hodiak Directed by George Sidney
4.20 Gustav and the Ungrateful Cow Animation
4.30 Fifteen-to-One Quick fire elimination quiz
5.00 Famous for 4 Minutes. Modernity has forced cut-backs on Warhol's predicted 15 minutes, so here in a twice-weekly slot ordinary folk tell us about their lives
5.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show: Before and After Plastic Surgery. In front of a studio audience a patient undergoes the latest in plastic surgery. Paris lips An injection of silicone into the lips creates the Monroe look, in vogue after Madonna and Barbara Hershey underwent the kewpie doll operation Later, members of the audience talk about their experiences of plastic surgery
6.00 A Different World. Award-winning American campus comedy series
6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The guests are real life Los Angeles private detective Logan Clarke, soon to be seen in Channel 4's *Watching the Detectives*, and the *Birds of a Feather* stars Pauline Quirke and Linda Robson
7.00 Channel Four News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather
7.50 The A-Z of Censorship: T is for Television.
8.00 Brookside More dramas from the lively Liverpudlians. (Teletext)
8.30 Dispatches.

● CHOICE The present over-exposure of the prime minister continues with this scoop of Number 10 at work, filmed over one month in particular, that exclusive club the cabinet is seen by television cameras for the first time As we have come to learn, televised Parliament and *Spitting Image* are often indistinguishable, so one wonders if this behind-the-scenes look will reveal a similar sense of caricature, or perhaps show the combination of bumbling and slickness seen in *Yes, Prime Minister*, or merely demonstrate how dull, to the outsider, the business of endless government meetings is The programme coincides *with Mr Major's first period of serious political criticism* and the resulting strain (tired, overworked), yet in interview with Sue Cameron he is at pains to stress the bright side more laughs in the office than you would think, he says, a development, one would imagine, since the court of his predecessor

A televised début: John Major's Cabinet in session (8.30pm)

9.15 Re-Play: The Necklace. A short play about the dilemma faced by two teenagers sleeping rough on the streets who find a valuable necklace One wants to hand it in to the police the other sees it as an escape route from poverty (r)
9.30 The Beer Hunter The Burgundies of Belgium. Michael Jackson, the distinguished beer buff and journalist, in the first of a series exploring the world's beers (r) (Teletext)
10.00 The Golden Girls: The Competition. The award-winning comedy series with the wittiest scripts on television about a group of "older" women sharing a Miami home Tonight, a bowling competition is set to decide whether Sophia (Estelle Getty) returns to Sicily with an old-flame or stays in Florida (r) (Teletext)
10.35 Film. First Monday in October (1981) starring Walter Matthau and Jill Clayburgh. Verbose version of the Jerome Lawrence/Robert E. Lee stage hit about the clash of wills between the first female member of the Supreme Court, who happens to be a committed conservative, and one of her liberal-minded peers Directed by Ronald Neame
12.25am Banned: The Sea Spilled Over Wide A documentary about the horrors of the building of the Soviet Union's White Sea Canal Ends at 1.00

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 6.25pm-7.00 Anglia News 12.25am Gilbert's Late 12.55 Quiz Night 1.25 Film: Of Love and Desire 3 15 Raw Power 4.15 Fifty Years On 4.35 Farming Diary 5.00-5.30 Nashville Swing

BORDER

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Scottish Women 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Lookaround Wednesday 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters. 12.25 Night Heat 1.20 Donahue 2.15 Video View 2.45 60 Minutes 3.40 Film: Who Are You? 5.00-5.30 Jobfinder

CENTRAL

As London except: 6.25pm-7.00 Central News 12.30am Donahue 1.20 60 Minutes 2.15 Pick of the Week 2.45 An Invitation to Remember: Bryan Forbes and Nanette Newman 3.15 Film: Wheel of Fate 4.25-5.30 Central Jobfinder '91.

GRANADA

As London except: 6.30pm-7.00 Granada Tonight 12.25am Night Heat 1.20 Donahue 2.15 Video View 2.45 60 Minutes 3.40 Film: Who Are You? 5.00-5.30 Jobfinder.

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 HTV News 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 12.25am Friday the 13th 1.20 America's Top Ten 1.50 *Donahue* 2.45 *Schmenski* 4 15 An Invitation to Remember: Nannette Newman and Bryan Forbes 4.45-5.30 Jobfinder.

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales at Six 12.25am-1.20 Championship Boxing.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 1.50pm Blockbusters 2.20-2.50 The Sullivans 3.25-3.55 How Does Your Garden Grow? 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30-7.00 Haggis Agus... 8.00-10.00 Film: Running Out 12.25am Top Club 12.55 Donahue 1.50 Queen: Magic Years 2.55 Film: The Scene of a Crime 4.30 Pop Profile 4.55-5.30 Jobfinder

TSW

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Cooking with Kurma 3.25-3.55 Home and Away 5.10-5.40 Take the High Road 6.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 12.25am Night Heat 1.20 Donahue 2.15 Video View 2.45 60 Minutes 3.40 Film: Who Are You? 5.00-5.30 TSW Jobfinder

TVS

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors 3.25-3.55 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 12.25am Film. Scream and Scream Again (Vincent Price, Peter Cushing, Christopher Lee) 2.10 Donahue 3.05 Night Heat 4.05 The Silk Road 5.00-5.30 America's Top Ten

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Up Country 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Northern Life 6.30-7.00 Trailblazers 12.25am Night Heat 1.20 Donahue 2.15 Video View 2.45 60 Minutes 3.40 Film: Who Are You? (Maurice Ronet, Romy Schneider) 5.00-5.30 Jobfinder

ULSTER

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Sons and Daughters 3.25-3.55 Who's The Boss? 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 12.25am Night Heat 1.20 Donahue 2.20 Video View 2.45 60 Minutes 3.40 Film: *Who Are You? 5.00-5.30* Jobfinder

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 12.25am Dirty Dancing — The Concert Tour 2.05 Quiz Night 2.40 How Was It For You? 3.10 Comedy Tonight 3.35 Music Box 4.25-5.30 Jobfinder

S4C

Starts: 6.00am C4 Daily 9.25 Yagollon 12.00 Special 12 10 Pobol Y Cwm 12.30 Newyddion 12.40 Slot Meithrin 1.00 Fifteen to One 1.30 Business Daily 2.00 Road Dreams 2.30 Film The Harvey Girls 3.20 Gustav and the Ungrateful Cow 4.30 Slot 23 5.15 Brookside 5.45 Heno 6.00 Newyddion 6.10 Heno 6.40 Pobol Y Cwm 7.00 Hel Straeon 7.30 Ar Y Tir 8.00 Nature Watch 8.30 Newyddion 8.55 Now You're Talking 9.20 Snwcer 10.00 Film Brimstone and Treacle 11.40 Banned The Propaganda War 12.10 Banned. Jo Menell interview Re Dick 12.25 Banned. The Sea Spilled Over Wide 1.00 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 12.45pm Oireachtas Report 1.00 News 1.35 Better Than New 2.00 Sam 3.00 Live at Three 4.00 News followed by Emmerdale 4.30 Hanney 5.30 A Country Practice 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 Six-One 7.00 No Job for a Lady 7.25 Tex Avery 7.35 MacGyver 8.30 Radharc in Haiti 9.00 News 9.30 Bio 10.30 Wednesday Report 11.05 Highwayman 12.00 News 12.10 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 2.00pm Bosco 2.30 Racing from Punchestown 4.40 The Den 6.25 Home and Away 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 Pobol in Deutschland 7.30 Coronation Street 8.00 News 8.05 This is Your Life 8.35 Who's The Boss 9.00 Cheers 9.30 News followed by Taggart 10.25 Nighthawks 11 05 News 11.25 Oireachtas Report 11.45 Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 6.00am The DJ Kat Show 8.35 Mrs Pepperpot 8 45 Panel Pot Pourri 10.00 The Dealer Channel 10.30 The Young Doctors 11 00 The Bold and the Beautiful 11 30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the Century 1.00 True Confessions 1.30 Another World 2.20 Santa Barbara 2.45 Wife of the Week 3 15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show 5.00 Punky Brewster 5.30 McHale's Navy 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7 00 Love at First Sight 7 30 Anything for Money 8.00 "V" 9.00 Equal Justice 10.00 Love at First Sight 10.30 The Hitchhiker 11 00 Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer 12.00 Twist in the Tale 12.30am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. News on the hour
5.00am Newswatch 6.00 Sunrise 9.30 Newsline 10.30 Roving Report 11 00 International Business Report 11 30 Daytime 12.30pm NBC Today 1 30 CBS News 2.30 Parliament Live 3.30 Parliament Live 4.30 Roving Report 6.30 Newsline 8 30 David Frost Talks with John Major 10.30 Newsline 11 30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1 30 NBC News 2 30 CBS News 3.30 NBC News 4.30 Beyond 2000

SKY MOVIES+

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Showcase
10.00 Chu Chu and the Philly Flash (1981): Two disparate characters discover a briefcase filled with government papers and decide to ransom the goods
12.00 Imagine: John Lennon (1988): Documentary about the former Beatle
2.00pm Jock of the Bushveldt: Children's adventure about a brave dog
4.00 Big Business (1988) Bette Midler and Lily Tomlin star as two sets of identical twins who are switched at birth
5.35 The Best of Carry On Doctor: Highlights from the *Carry On* movies
6.00 Wizards of the Lost Kingdom (1984): The son of a powerful wizard teams up with a warrior to defeat a wicked warlock
7.30 Sky Movies Special Event: The WWF UK Rampage: Live from the London Docklands Arena
10.30 The Battle of the Blockbusters: Viewers can chose from either Manhunter (1986) A cop establishes psychic links with a serial killer Starring William Peterson or Dead Ringers (1988) Twin gynaecologists (Jeremy Irons) fall in love with the same woman (Genevieve Bujold)
12.30am Black Emmanuelle (1975) The female photographer encounters all manner of erotic adventures when she is sent on an African assignment Starring Laura Gemser
2.15 Higher Education (1987) Comedy about the adventures of a small-town boy at a big city art college Starring Kevin Hicks
4.00 Watchers (1988) Horror film about an experimental beast that escapes from a government laboratory. Ends at 5.35

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.15am Just the Way You Are (1984) A crippled girl goes on a skiing holiday. Starring Kristy McNichol
8.15 The Bad News Bears Go to Japan (1978) Hustler Tony Curtis takes the little league baseball team under his wing
10.15 Funeral in Berlin (1966) Harry Palmer (Michael Caine) arranges for the defection of a Russian agent
12.15pm Christine Cromwell — Only the Good (1989) Starring Jaclyn Smith
2.15 Housekeeping (1987) Drama-comedy about two orphaned girls who are sent to live with their eccentric aunt
4.14 Who's Harry Crumb? (1989) John Candy stars as the eponymous detective
5.50 Spotlight
6 15 Personal Foul (1987) The friendship of two men is threatened when they fall in love with the same woman
8 15 The Dead Can't Lie (1988) A man hires a private detective to stop the ghost of his late wife from haunting him
10.15 The Cook, The Thief, His Wife and Her Lover (1989) Peter Greenaway's morality piece about an underworld figure (Michael Gambon), who tries to elevate himself socially by eating at the best restaurant in town, while his wife (Helen Mirren) conducts an affair with a fellow diner
12.20am The Experts (1989) John Travolta and Ayre Gross help the Russians learn about the American way of life
1.55 Flowers in the Attic (1987) Four children are kept locked in the attic of a sprawling mansion
3.30 The Devil's Brigade (1968) Second world war adventure about maverick American GIs who are drafted in to fight alongside Canadian troops. Ends at 5.40

SKY SPORTS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites. 1.00pm Motorcycling GP of the USA 3.00 Live Test Match Cricket 7 45 Live Scottish Football 10 00 Live Test Match Cricket 12.00 Scottish Football

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
5 00am Sunrise 6.00 The DJ Kat 7 30 Eurobics 8 00 Ice Hockey World Championships 10 00 Darts Champion of Champions 10.30 Eurobics 11 00 Benson and Hedges International Golf 1 00pm German Touring Cars 2.00 Cycling 3 00 Indoor Hockey 4.00 Super Funboard World Cup 5 00 Trampoline World Championships 5 30 The Rotterdam Marathon 6.30 Eurosport News 7 00 Transworld Sport 8 00 Ringside 10 00 Martial Arts Festival 10 30 Archery World Championships 11 00 European Cup Football 12.00 Big Wheels 12.30am Eurosport News 1.00 Test Match Cricket

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7 00am Sport de France 7 30 British Touring Cars 8.00 Action Auto 8.30 Tennis Philips Open de Nice 10 00 Slop-NHRA Drag Racing 11 00 Ten Pin Bowling 12 15am Go 1 15 US Pro Ski Tour 2.00 Rugby a XIII French Rugby League 3 30 US Pro Boxing 5 00 Slop-Supercross 6 00 US PGA Golf MCI Heritage Classic 8 00 Live Pro Box 10.00 Motor Sport F3000 11 00 Motor Sport Rallycross 12.00 Major League Baseball

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
10 00am The Great American Gameshows 11 15 Coffee Break 11 20 Workout 11 50 Slim Cooking 12 15pm Sally Jessy Raphael 1 05 What's New 1 10 Search For Tomorrow 1.35 The Edge of Night 2.00 Film Women of Valor (1988) 3.55 Tea Break 4 05 Phyllis 4.35 The Great American Gameshows 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Programme 8.00 Close 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Programme 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only) 6.55 Weather; News
7.00 Morning Concert: Heinichen (Concerto in F: Virtuosi Saxoniae under Güttler); Caccini (Vedrò 'l mio sol); Sammartini (Quintet in G: Ensemble 415 under Chiara Banchini) 7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Beethoven (Overture, Egmont, Op 84: Philharmonia under Klemperer); Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in D minor, Op 64: Berlin PO under Furtwängler, with Yehudi Menuhin); Respighi (The Fountains of Rome: Minneapolis SO under Dorati)
8.30 News
8.35 Composers of the Week: Prokofiev (Five Poems, Op 27; Suite, Chout, The Tale of the Buffoon, Op 21a; Piano Sonata No 3, Op 28)
9.35 Midweek Choice, with Susan Sharpe. J.S. Bach (Concerto in C, BWV 1061: Liszt Academy of Music Orchestra under Simon); Puccini (Bimba dagli occhi, Madama Butterfly: La Scala Milan Orchestra under Carlo Sabajno), William Mathias (Celtic Dances, Op 60: National Youth Orchestra of Wales under Arthur Davison), Mendelssohn (Octet in E flat, Op 20: Hausmusik); Bortnyansky (Quintet in C for piano, harp, violin, viola, cello: instrumental ensemble); Weber (Polacca brillante, Op 72: Phyllis Moss, piano); Massenet (Scènes pittoresques, Orchestral Suite No 4: CBSO under Frémaux)
11.35 Cheltenham Festival 1990: Soloists, Hanover Band and Chorus under Roy Goodman perform Salieri (Te Deum); Mozart (Exsultate Jubilate, K 165; Requiem, K 626)

● CHOICE. Musical history was made at the concert which prepared festival-goers for this year's Mozart bicentennial it included the first performance of the Requiem in the edition by H.C. Robbins Landon, whose book, *1791, Mozart's Last Year*, was an Everest in musical scholarship, because it approached the mystery-shrouded events of the writing of the Requiem in the manner of a writer of detective fiction tackling an unsolved crime committed centuries ago. For fans of Peter Shaffer's play *Amadeus*, there is the additional *frisson* in today's concert of also hearing a work by Salieri

1.00pm News
1.05 Concert Hall: Mayumi Seiler, violin, Caroline Palmer, piano, perform Martinů (Five Madrigal Stanzas); Bartók (Rhapsody No 1); Beethoven (Sonata in F, Op 24, Spring)
2.00 Record Review (r)
3.10 Vintage Years: Walton (Façade — An Entertainment: English Opera Group Ensemble under Anthony Collins, with Edith Sitwell, speaker); Seiber (*Three Fragments, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* — excerpt: Melos Ensemble; Dorian Singers under the composer)
4.00 Choral Evensong: Live from Truro Cathedral
5.00 Songs of the Savannah: The Hidden Crocodile. Traditional music from the Gambia, the first of three African rivers (r)
5.30 Mainly for Pleasure
7.00 News
7.05 Third Ear, with Paul Barker
7.30 BBC Welsh SO under Tadaaki Otaka performs Mussorgsky, orch Shostakovich (Prelude, Khovanshchina); Shostakovich (Violin Concerto No 2 in C sharp minor, Op 129: Dmitry Sitkovetsky). 8.10 Sonya. Sorcha Cusack reads Tatyana Tolstaya's short story (r). 8.30 Shostakovich (Symphony No 5 in D minor, Op 47)
9.25 The Anglican Communion: A Communion Impaired? In the second of three programmes, Dr David Edwards examines what lay behind the headlines during the years of Dr Runcie's leadership
10.10 John Williams. On the occasion of his fiftieth birthday, the guitarist plays Praetorius (Dances from Terpsichore), Roncalli (Passacaglia), Weiss (Fantasy; Tombeau de M Cajetan; Passacaglia), Villa-Lobos (Three Studies), Barrios (Two Waltzes) (r)
10.55 Ligeti. BBC Singers under James Wood sing Éjszaka, Reggel, Night and Morning; Drei Phantasien nach Friedrich Hölderlin; Magyar Etüdök; Haj, ifjuság; Kállai Kettős — first UK performance 11.30 News
11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week: The Scarlattis (r)
1.00-2.25 Night School (FM only) (except in Scotland)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day (s) 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 8.58 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Midweek
10.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time (r)
10.30 Morning Story: The Totara Tree, by Roderick Finlayson. Read by Susan Curnow
10.45 Daily Service (s)
11.00 News; File on 4 (r)
11.42 Remembering Jane Austen: *Derek Parker presents the last* programme based on James Austen-Leigh's memoirs of his aunt (s)
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm The Confidential Agent: An adaptation of Graham Greene's thriller about an ineffectual Middle-European academic (Charles Kay), who is sent to Britain to purchase coal for his beleaguered government (2 of 3) (s) (r) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping
2.00 News; Woman's Hour: Includes an interview with Helke Sander, the German film-maker and feminist; and a behind-the-scenes look at women in the music industry
3.00 News; Arthur Haltshaft — the Man. Alick Rowe pays a fictional tribute to the Herefordshire musician and bon viveur (s)
3.47 Treasure Islands: Judith Hann and Carolyn Dale assess how successful publishers have been in their attempt to make the subject of science more attractive to children
4.00 News
4.05 Grand Tour The poet Stephen Spender recalls the decadent Berlin of the Thirties, and talks about his friendship with Christopher Isherwood (s) (r)
4.30 Kaleidoscope The film director Oliver Stone opens *The Doors* on the group's lead singer, Jim Morrison, other film reviews include *Scenes From a Mall*; and Maeve Binchey reviews Nina Bawden's novel, *Family Money* (s)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report
6.30 Brain of Britain 1991 (s) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Age to Age Barry Cunliffe examines changing trends in the heritage industry; and Sean Street visits New Lanark, almost unchanged since the Industrial Revolution (r)
7.45 All in the Mind (r)
8.15 Literature is My Mistress, Medicine My Wife A Glimpse of Hell. The fourth of seven programmes about the life of Anton Chekhov, Russia's greatest playwright. Starring David Suchet (s) (r)
8.45 In Business Does Whitehall Mean Business? The trade and industry department (DTI) prefers to be known as the enterprise department But is it clear about its role as business creator? Peter Day finds out (s)
9.15 Kaleidoscope (s) (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight (s) 9.58 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime An Autumn Sowing, by E.F. Benson (3 of 10) (s)
11.00 Magic Moments. Ice Cold in Wrexham

● CHOICE: Little did Wordsworth think, when he was penning his lines about daffodils, that one day his glorious act of creation would combine with music by Elgar and the voice of an American-Danish comedian to tempt British throats to lubricate themselves with a Dutch-made refresher Such, however, were the components of the advertising campaign that, as Nigel Fountain recounts tonight, helped launch British drinkers on a sea of lager confounding those wiseacres who said that persuading the real-ale Britain to drink something once thought fit only for maiden aunts, was like trying to get drinkers in Bordeaux to switch to Liebfraumilch

11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m,FM-97 6-99.8 Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2 Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m, FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW 5.00am Gary King 6.30 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.30 News 91 6.00 Jakki Brambles 7.30 Mark Goodier Live at the Marquee Featuring the Soup Dragons, live in concert 9.00 The Man Ezeke Sunshine Show 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00-2.00am Andy Peebles

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 4.00am Alex Lester 6.00 Ken Bruce 7.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Judith Chalmers 11.00 Brian Hayes 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.00 Sarah Kennedy 4.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7 00 Are You Sitting Comfortably? 7.30 Edmundo Ros 8.00 Jim Lloyd with Folk on 2 Highlights from the fiftieth birthday celebrations of fiddler Dave Swarbrick 9.00 Nigel Ogden The Organist Entertains 9.30 Myself When Young Marian Montgomery 10.00 Chris Stuart 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35 Bill Rennells with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

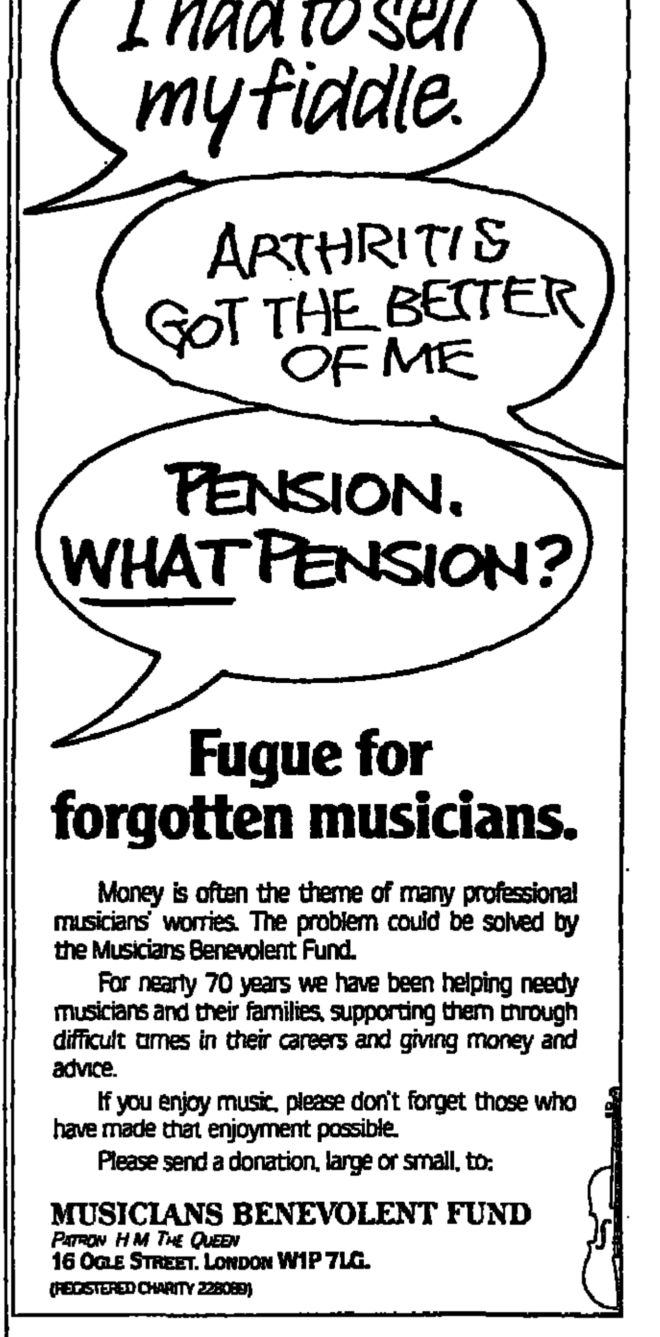
RADIO 5

6.00am World Service News and 24 Hours 6.30 Morning Edition, incl 6.30, 7 00, 7.30, 8.00. 8.30 News Sport 9.00 Schools 10.25 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 10.40 The Family Business 0345 909 693, incl 11.00, 12.00 News, Sport 12.30pm Education Matters 1.00 News, Sport 1.05 As Radio 3 2.00 News, Sport 2.05 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (r) 2.30 World Service Discovery 3.00 News, Sport 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Growing Points in Medicine 3.45 Seeing Stars 4.00 News, Sport 4.05 Development 91 4.35 Five Aside 7.20 The Kingdom by the Sea, by Robert Westall (9 of 10) 7.35 Spinning Stars Aries the Golden Ram, by Peter Thomson (final part) 8.00 Champion Sport with Jon Champion European Cup Winners Cup, quarter-final second-leg between Manchester United and Legia Warsaw 10.00 News, Sport 10.10 *Earshot*, incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10am News, Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST 5.00am Morgenmagazin 5.30 The World Today 5.45 News Headlines in English and French 5.47 British Press Review 5.52 World Business Report 5.57 Travel and Weather News 6.00 News 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7 00 Newsdesk 7 30 Meridian 8.00 News 8.09 24 Hours 8.30 Development 91 9.00 News 9.09 Words of Faith 9 15 Growing Points in Medicine 9.30 Double Bill 10.00 News 10.09 World Business Report 10 15 Country Style 10.30 Media Watch 10 45 Sports Roundup 11 01 Omnibus 11.30 Londres Midi 11 45 Mittagsmagazin 11 59 Weather 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30pm Meridian 1.00 News 1.09 News About Britain 1 15 New Ideas 1 35 Cue for Song Dame Page 1 45 Sports Roundup 2.00 Newshour 3.00 News 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Off The Shelf The Turn of the Screw 3.45 Business Matters 4.00 News 4 15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 World and British News 5 15 The World Today 5.30 Londres Soir 5 14 The World Today 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7 54 News in German 8.00 News 8.05 World Business Report 8 15 Londres Dernière 8.30 Omnibus 9.00 News 9.09 The World Today 9.25 Words of Faith 9.30 Sportsworld 10.00 Newshour 11.00 News 11.05 From Our Own Correspondent 11.20 Counterpoint 11.50 Sports Roundup 12.00 News 12.05am World Business Report 12 15 Neglected Classics Wolf Society 12.30 Multitrack 2 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 The A-Z of Music 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Waveguide 2.40 Book Choice 2.45 The Farming World 3.00 Newsdesk 3.30 Assignment 4.00 News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 Brain of Britain 4.45 News and Press Review in German

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TV CHOICE CHRIS PETIT/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE



I had to sell my fiddle.
ARTHRITIS GOT THE BETTER OF ME
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Secret new CFE deal offer to Moscow

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE fate of the "historic" arms-cutting Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty, signed in Paris last November, now rests with President Gorbachev, following a secret compromise package offered by President Bush. American and British diplomatic sources yesterday admitted that everything now depended on President Gorbachev being able to sell the "face-saving" formula to his own military.

Ratification of the CFE treaty, which will reduce the total number of East-West tanks in Europe to 40,000, has been delayed because of Moscow's surprise admission, after the agreement was signed, that three motorised rifle divisions had been transferred from the army to the navy, removing them from the treaty limitations.

Moscow refused to budge in spite of accusations from Washington that the Soviet Union was violating the spirit of the treaty. Now President Bush, with the support of Western allies, has offered to let the Soviet Union keep the three extra divisions, assigned to naval marines and coastal defences, provided it removes the equivalent number of tanks, armoured personnel carriers and artillery pieces from army divisions in the CFE-limited region to areas east of the Urals.

According to diplomatic sources in Washington, London and Vienna, President Gorbachev has been allowed one other concession. The equipment he withdraws, to compensate for the extra divisions transferred to the navy, can be destroyed outside the CFE zone, unlike all other treaty-limited items.

As one diplomatic source put it: "Gorbachev will save face because he will be able to say to the military that the transfer of divisions has been approved by the West. But we will be able to say we have won points, too, by insisting on keeping to the agreed ceilings."

British sources suggested the issue could be one of the principal tests of President Gorbachev's survival. "This raises the whole question of who is in charge of the Soviet Union," one source said. "We will have to see if Gorbachev can kick the general staff into line on this one."

MICHAEL POWELL

Packed lunch: delegates to the Institute of Directors conference at the Royal Albert Hall, break for a desk-meal of quails eggs and fresh salmon with mixed herbs; smoked chicken with mango and port aspic; two salads, cheeses, grapes, mints, wine and brandy. Conference reports, page 26

Red carpet is out for Polish leader

Continued from page 1

Britain laid on the full ceremonial works. All the Queen's horses and all the Queen's men were there: the splendid black steeds in a long line, the plumes and breastplates of their mounts gleaming in the sun, with the Second Battalion, Grenadier Guards, in front, perfectly aligned after much regimental bawling and shuffling.

On the grass a medieval pavilion had been erected that could have come straight from a tourist brochure. Decorated with Tudor roses and crowned with two golden turrets trailing red, white and blue banners, it bore the royal coat of arms flanked by two imperial Polish eagles, crowned again for the first time since Poland became a republic.

One by one magnificent old black Daimlers, the stately British forerunners of today's vulgar VIP limos, disgorged the Queen's generals, admirals, air chief marshals and ministers in full ceremonial scarlet and braid or sober morning suits, complete with silk top hats — though the prime minister and the foreign secretary remained bareheaded. At five to twelve, The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh purred up in their stately Rolls. The Duke chatted to Mr Hurd and Mr Major. The Queen, in a dazzling deep turquoise blue coat with matching silk hat, waited expectantly.

At the stroke of noon, and to the strains of the Polish national anthem, the Walesas, accompanied by the Duke of Kent, drew up at the pavilion, 25 minutes precisely after touching down at Heathrow.

After the introductions and a little pleasant small talk, eased by the ever-attentive interpreters, President Walesa and Danuta, severe in a deep plum suit, stepped forward as Major Edward Bolitho paced up and in clear and well-rehearsed Polish invited the president to inspect the guard, while the band played, of course, a Chopin polonnaise.

Though his loose-fitting grey suit was a touch proletarian, his manner still lacking the formal stiffness of his military predecessor, the former leader of Solidarity is quickly growing into his job.

Walesa dispute, page 13

Highway of death claims hundreds of children

Continued from page 1

medical supplies for a team of doctors working lower down the road — the only foreign relief effort on the road — said that about 100 children were dying every day. "The situation is very, very, bad and we need to work here. It is just impossible to see people dying and do nothing," said Annick Hamel of Médecins du Monde.

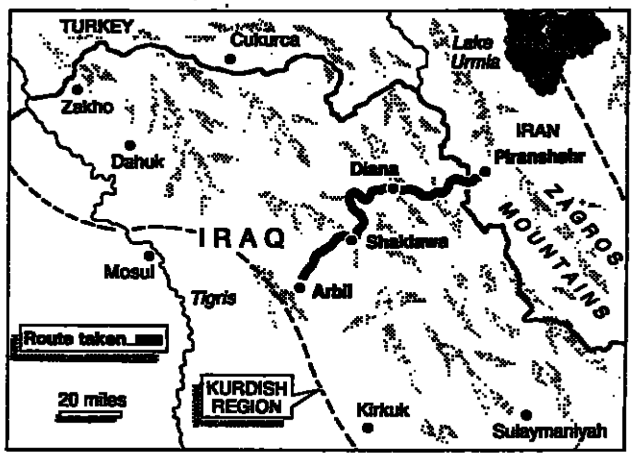
Mlle Hamel said she believed the Iranians had closed the border because they had been swamped by the hundreds of thousands who had already crossed. She said an epidemic of diarrhoea was killing the children and people were exhausted and helpless. "It is impossible to know what they (the Iranians) are doing," she observed, "because the Kurdish people don't know what to do themselves." Some food supplies were getting across the border, but they were not reaching those needing them most.

As I moved further down the road, I saw several bodies of adults covered with blankets and waiting to be buried. I passed old women who were clearly not going to survive much longer. One woman sat by the road, staring with her mouth open, her breast exposed and a lifeless baby in her lap.

After about two miles I was able to get a lift and traffic began to thin as the road down to Diana cleared. From this point the refugees were not waiting to cross into Iran: they had turned off the road and were seeking safety and protection to camp in the gorge and the valleys.

Many had tents looted from army stores in Diana or were living among buildings either destroyed in the Iran-Iraq war or cleared during the systematic destruction of Kurdish villages by President Saddam Hussein's regime.

One family had fashioned a shelter out of oil drums and plastic sheeting. Others were in caves set back from the road. Food seemed more plentiful here but these people, probably numbering several hundred thousand, were still dangerously exposed and urgently needed help.



Political sketch

Relax, the Snarler is purring now

THE cabinet can sleep easy tonight. Their new "council tax" has passed the Winterton test. Even Mr Angry of Macclesfield, the puce-faced, finger-stabbing Cheshire Snarler was moved yesterday to commend Mr Heseltine's announcement.

Nicholas Winterton (C, Macclesfield) has for some time now found little in Conservative policy to approve. Your average Tuesday afternoon has seen him on his feet, waving his arms and raging, at times beyond coherence, against the iniquities of one or another of his party's policies.

Nor has Mr Winterton's scorn been directed to policy alone. Few members of the government have proved equal, as individuals, to Macclesfield's stern tests of adequacy.

Only last week he could be seen, purple of brow, veins standing out on his neck, yelling at the Chancellor of the Exchequer "*I* understand business. *I'm* not a banker." But today, all was calm, as we shall see.

Bryan Gould had struggled gamely to chivvy things up. In that famous, muted New Zealand drone, he accused the environment secretary of executing "the Heseltine flip-flop", and the prime minister of doing "the Major straddle". The Labour spokesman then attempted the Gould strut, Kiwi jive or Auckland limbo. The government had "not made a proper job" of these proposals, he said. They were "son of poll tax", and "a Rottweiler's breakfast". The "British people will be the losers".

Less than an hour later, Barry Jones, Labour's chief spokesman on Wales, said that Mr Heseltine's plans showed he had "stolen Labour's clothes". Perhaps he had not discussed this with Mr Gould, or perhaps it is a case of Mr Heseltine stealing the breakfast from Mr Gould's Rottweiler?

"The hardest word" for Mr Heseltine, said Gould, "is 'sorry'". Heseltine avoided the word. The hardest phrase for Mr Gould was 'you shot Labour's fox'. Gould did not use it, but Sir Norman Fowler did.

Dead foxes, however, do not make for a lively afternoon. So probably the reason Mr Speaker called Mr Winterton was in the hope of relieving the yawning littany of half-congratulation from the government backbenches. The Tory consensus seemed to be that this might not be the best thing since sliced bread, but it was a good deal better than a slap in the face with a wet poll tax. It would do. As John Major smiled gently from the front bench and Neil Kinnock sidled out remarking to colleagues, in an attempt to be jocose, "I can't stay to enjoy this", we had begun to despair of the fun we had been promised.

It takes a dull day to make the judicious Robin Squire (C, Hornchurch) sound racy, but when he rose to speak of "Labour's three threats to widows," MPs' pulses quickened to the drumbeat of what is undoubtedly to be the local election doorstep two-step. Labour's "five assaults on the disabled" will come next, followed by the Tories' "seventeen attacks on the blind". But in truth it was tame stuff.

So Mr Speaker called Mr Winterton, who breakfasts on Rottweilers. And a stunned House gaped as the member for Macclesfield *supported* his secretary of state, and *attacked* a Labour-controlled local authority, (Cheshire). For some of the younger Tories in the Chamber this was probably the first time they had ever heard Nicholas Winterton defend government policy.

"Macclesfield," said Mr Winterton, "will warmly welcome" the announcement. Relax, then, Tories. It's all downhill from here.

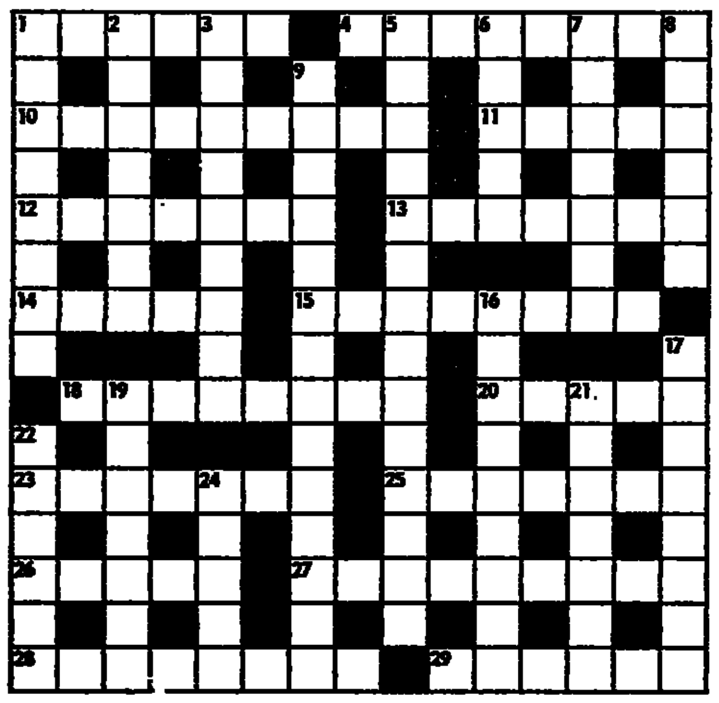
MATTHEW PARRIS

TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

Heal thyself? Doctors, the group of people with the greatest knowledge of how to avoid illnesses, are more likely than most to be killed in road accidents, admitted to hospital suffering from alcoholism or depression, or to commit suicide. How sick are our doctors?

Tuned out? The Philadelphia Orchestra is not coming to London because of "anxiety" among its musicians. Bernard Levin wonders what the creator of the Philadelphia sound would make of this, given that the sound was not supposed to consist of chattering teeth and knocking knees

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,588



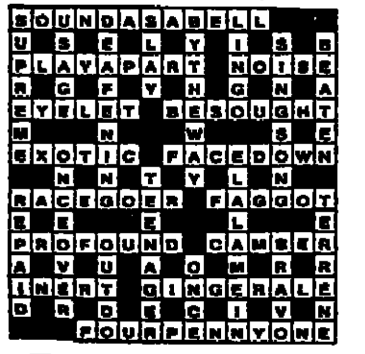
ACROSS

1 A gaol to make the hair stand on end (4-2).
4 After thought, get together to adapt unknown instrument (8).
10 Vi details the essential nature of the upper class (5,4).
11 Jacket bearing a Bronte name (5).
12 American plan giving weight to paid performer (7).
13 Giving away sound vegetable coming to maturity (7).
14 Black paintbrush (5).
15 Put on mule I sat awkwardly (8).
18 Unrest in Spain following article is dramatic (8).
20 The Gentlemen — a cricket side in the heartless twenties (5).
23 Force to be a soldier (7).
25 Fence round the quarters and shut down (7).
26 Sharp spine removes hummingbird's beak (5).
27 New model line doomed to failure (3-6).
28 Whistler fell and was sent to a specialist (8).
29 A familiar close to the day (6).

DOWN

1 Call for retirement from most recent job (4,4).
2 Firm kiss planted on crest of peacock (7).
3 Leave Suffolk free from draught?(9).
5 How the nurseryman behaved when approaching the fair? (14).
6 Call a priest — a woolly-haired one! (5).
7 Caught out finally after single, resulting in draw (7).
8 Some way off? Could be done within the year (6).
9 In charge on river he may check you in and out? (14).
16 Person unlikely to break the ice (9).
17 Took an internal flight from the ground (8).
19 Frustrate purpose of guillotine? (4,3).
21 Bit of skirt having a fling (7).
22 Check with alternative leader (6).
24 His deeds should justify his status (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,587



Concise crossword, page 21

This puzzle was solved within 30 minutes by 35 per cent of the competitors at the 1991 Birmingham regional final of The Times Collins Dictionaries Crossword Championship.

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

LEVIGATE
a. To pulverise
b. To steer a flying machine
c. A gate that lifts up

PLACKET
a. A one-masted vessel
b. An express parcel
c. A slit in a skirt

PALISADES
a. Sword exercises
b. Royal ADCs
c. An extended precipice

COFFLE
a. Decaf
b. A linked parade
c. A collar pin

Answers on page 22

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE	
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
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M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Most parts of England and Wales will stay dry for much of the day. In Wales and western England, cloud will increase with rain likely by the end of the afternoon and during the evening. Northern Ireland and western Scotland will have a cloudy day, with rain becoming more persistent during the afternoon. Eastern Scotland will stay mostly dry but rather cloudy. Outlook: cloudy with rain or heavy showers.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	s	Madrid	16	61	s
Akrotiri	29	84	s	Majorca	16	61	f
Alex'dria	29	84	c	Malaga	17	63	f
Algiers	17	63	s	Malta	16	61	s
Amst'dm	5	41	c	Melb'rne	15	59	f
Athens	22	72	f	Miami*	26	79	s
Bahrain	29	84	s	Milan	9	48	f
Barbads*	29	84	f	Montreal*	9	48	r
Barcelna	15	59	s	Moscow	1	34	c
Belgrade	14	57	c	Munich	4	39	sl
Berlin	7	45	c	Nairobi	26	79	f
Bermuda*	25	77	f	Naples	14	57	f
Biarritz	13	55	f	N Delhi	32	90	s
Borde'x	14	57	c	N York*	11	52	sn
Brussels	7	45	c	Nice	14	57	f
Budapst	12	54	f	Oslo	11	52	f
B Aires*	24	75	f	Paris	11	52	c
Cairo	36	97	s	Peking	19	66	c
Cape Tn	25	77	s	Perth	20	68	c
C'blanca	18	64	c	Prague	8	46	r
Chicago*	16	61	s	Reykjavik	1	34	c
Ch'church	9	48	d	Rhodes	25	77	s
Cologne	4	39	r	Rome	12	54	f
C'phagn	5	41	r	Salzburg	8	46	f
Corfu	17	63	s	S F'risco*	12	54	c
Dublin	11	52	r	Santiago*	18	64	s
Dubrovnik	15	59	s	S Paulo*	24	75	c
Faro	18	64	s	Seoul	23	73	s
Florence	14	57	c	Sing'por	30	86	f
Frankfurt	8	46	f	St'kholm	9	48	s
Funchal	18	64	f	Strasb'rg	7	45	f
Geneva	7	45	c	Sydney	18	64	s
Gibraltar	17	63	f	Tangier	15	59	r
Helsinki	5	41	sn	Tel Aviv	24	75	s
Hong K	25	77	s	Tenerife	19	66	c
Innsbrck	4	39	sl	Tokyo	20	68	f
Istanbul	10	50	f	Toronto*	7	45	r
Jo'burg*	21	70	s	Tunis	17	63	c
Karachi	32	90	s	Valencia	17	63	s
L Palmas	19	66	c	Vanc'ver*	11	52	c
Le Tquet	10	50	f	Venice	12	54	c
Lisbon	19	66	s	Vienna	12	54	f
Locarno	12	54	c	Warsaw	9	48	f
Luxembg	6	43	f	Wash'ton*	16	61	f

* denotes figures are latest available

[illegible]

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.315	2.165
Austria Sch	22.00	20.60
Belgium Fr	64.30	60.30
Canada $	2.09	1.94
Denmark Kr	11.57	11.21
Finland Mkk	7.38	6.93
France Fr	10.48	9.83
Germany Dm	3.12	2.92
Greece Dr	334.00	314.00
Hong Kong $	13.90	12.90
Ireland Pt	1.65	1.095
Italy Lira	2310	2170
Japan Yen	252	225
Netherlands Gld	3.505	3.295
Norway Kr	12.10	11.40
Portugal Esc	268.50	250.50
South Africa Rd	5.54	4.90
Spain Pta	191.50	178.50
Sweden Kr	11.15	10.47
Switzerland Fr	2.62	2.45
Turkey Lira	7150	6350
USA $	1.79	1.67
Yugoslavia Dnr	50.00	30.00

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MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 12C (54F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1C (34F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 2.5 hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	8.4	.10	9	48	shower
Anglesey	10.8	-	10	50	sunny
Aviemore	4.0	.06	9	48	sleet
Belfast	8.2	.01	12	54	bright
Birmingham	10.8	.02	11	52	sunny
Blackpool	12.8	-	10	50	sunny
Bristol	9.2	-	11	52	sunny
Cardiff	10.6	-	12	54	sunny
Colwyn Bay	9.5	-	9	48	sunny
Edinburgh	5.7	.02	11	52	bright
Eskdalemuir	5.3	.05	8	46	bright
Exmouth	8.6	.05	12	54	sunny
Glasgow	10.1	-	12	54	sunny
Hunstanton	8.2	.01	8	46	sunny
Ilfracombe	X	-	10	50	sunny
Leeds	10.3	.01	11	52	sunny
Lerwick	3.3	.13	5	41	cloudy
London	7.3	.08	11	52	bright
Lowestoft	8.9	.11	9	48	shower
Manchester	10.2	-	10	50	sunny
Morecambe	8.4	-	11	52	sunny
Newcastle	X	.09	9	48	sunny
Nottingham	11.3	-	11	52	sunny
Scarborough	10.2	.11	7	45	sunny
Scilly Isles	11.3	-	11	52	sunny
Southsea	9.6	-	12	54	sunny
Stornoway	5.0	-	9	48	cloudy
Swanage	6.0	-	12	54	sunny
Teignmouth	10.1	.02	12	54	sunny
Tenby	10.6	-	11	52	sunny
Tiree	10.8	-	10	50	sunny
Torquay	10.0	-	14	57	sunny
Weymouth	10.7	.01	13	55	sunny
Wick	7.3	.12	8	46	bright

These are Monday's figures

[illegible]

Monday: Highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 14C (57F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 5C (41F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, 0.13 in; highest sunshine: Blackpool, Lancashire, 12.8 hr.

[illegible]

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edn S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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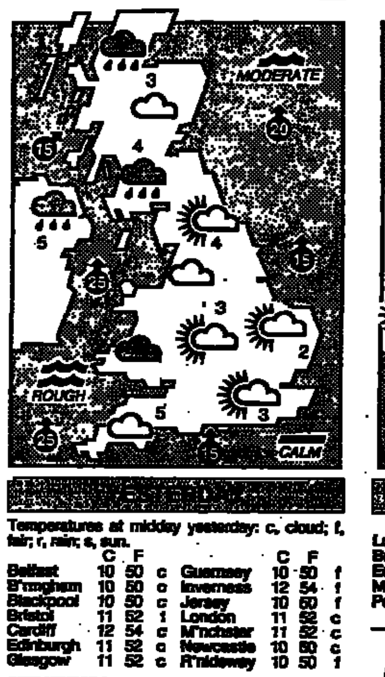

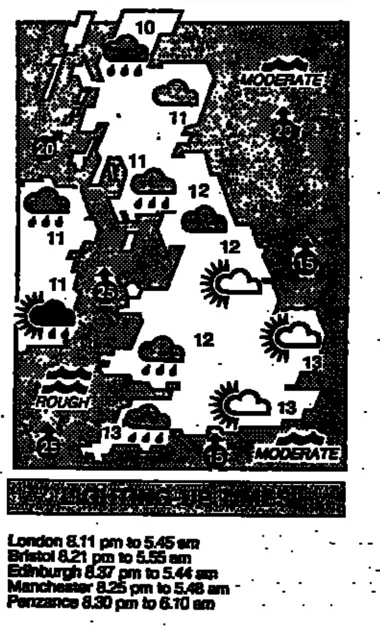

[illegible]

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	10	50	c	Guernsey	10	50	f
B'rmghm	10	50	c	Inverness	12	54	f
Blackpool	10	50	c	Jersey	10	50	f
Bristol	11	52	f	London	11	52	c
Cardiff	12	54	c	M'nchster	11	52	c
Edinburgh	11	52	c	Newcastle	10	50	c
Glasgow	11	52	c	R'nldsway	10	50	f

[illegible]

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 12C (54F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3C (37F). Rain: 24hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.8 hr.

[illegible]

London 8.11 pm to 5.45 am
Bristol 8.21 pm to 5.55 am
Edinburgh 8.37 pm to 5.44 am
Manchester 8.25 pm to 5.48 am
Penzance 8.30 pm to 6.10 am

Sun rises: 5.47 am
Sun sets: 8.11 pm
Moon sets 3.51 am
Moon rises 3.28 pm

Full moon April 28

[illegible]

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10.59	6.4	11.27	6.2	Liverpool	8.31	8.1	9.12	8.1
Aberdeen	10.46	3.6	11.38	3.6	Lowestoft	7.11	2.1	6.41	2.2
Avonmouth	4.03	10.9	4.48	11.1	Margate	9.28	4.1	9.34	4.2
Belfast	8.16	3.1	9.19	3.0	Milford Haven	3.25	5.8	4.04	5.7
Cardiff	3.48	10.2	4.33	10.4	Newquay	2.24	5.8	3.01	5.8
Devonport	2.40	4.6	3.32	4.5	Oban	3.50	3.2	4.15	3.1
Dover	8.44	5.6	9.04	5.8	Penzance	1.53	4.6	2.41	4.5
Falmouth	2.10	4.4	3.02	4.3	Portland	3.29	1.6	4.33	1.5
Glasgow	9.23	4.2	10.57	4.1	Portsmouth	8.42	3.9	9.30	4.2
Harwich	9.02	3.5	9.22	3.3	Shoreham	8.38	5.0	9.13	5.5
Holyhead	7.46	4.9	8.30	4.8	Southampton	8.24	3.9	9.05	4.2
Hull	3.43	6.2	3.51	6.4	Swansea	3.30	7.7	4.12	7.8
Ilfracombe	3.06	7.5	3.46	7.6	Tees	12.51	4.5	1.08	4.8
King's Lynn	3.55	5.3	4.04	5.6	W'ton-on-Nze	9.01	3.7	9.22	3.6
Leith			12.06	4.8					

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

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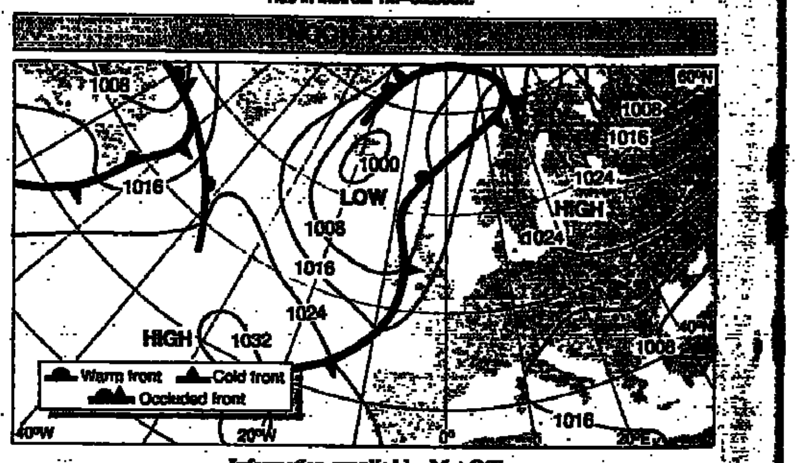

Information supplied by Met Office

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BUSINESS

Business Editor
John Bell

WEDNESDAY APRIL 24 1991

Tarmac falls to £190m

PRE-TAX profits at Tarmac, the housebuilding and construction group, almost halved last year, from £377 million to £190.7 million. The final dividend is held at 8.25p making an unchanged 11.25p for the year.

Housing profits plunged from £183.5 million to £67.3 million, but the group sold 11,209 (12,085) homes in the year. Trading in the first half of this year is no better than *the second half of last year.*

Tempus, page 27

BZW closure

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the investment banking arm of Britain's largest clearing bank, is to close its American equity trading operation with up to 60 job losses. Jonathan Davie, chief executive of the equities division, said a detailed review concluded that the cost of building and maintaining a business in American equities would not produce adequate returns in the foreseeable future.

Guidehouse loss

Guidehouse Group, the financial services concern, reported losses of £673,000 (£325,000 profits) for last year. Losses were 4p a share (earnings of 0.7p). There is no final dividend, leaving the total payment for the year at 0.1p a share (0.6p). Extraordinary costs of £1.77 million relate to the write down of investments to net realisable values.

Bid extended

Coats Viyella's £194 million bid for Tootal, has been formally extended until May 6, although the takeover bid clock has been stopped until Peter Lilley, trade secretary, hears about monopoly implications. Meanwhile Tootal rejoiced in the observation that Coats' acceptances had decreased by some 40,000 shares, as holders were permitted to withdraw for the first time.

Cannon issue

Cannon Street Investments is raising £46.7 million, from a placing of convertibles and the rest from a rights issue. Proceeds will be used to bring down borrowings from 400 per cent to about 80 per cent.

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THE POUND

US dollar
1.7120 (+0.0190)

German mark
2.9823 (–0.0059)

Exchange index
91.7 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1965.8 (+11.4)

FT-SE 100
2503.8 (+13.0)

New York Dow Jones
2931.93 (+4.21)*

Tokyo Nikkei Avge
26491.57 (+254.56)

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Morland	290p (+12p)
Flogas	235p (+10p)
Courts Furnishers	221p (+8p)
Kingfisher	499p (+9p)
QS Holdings	202½p (+10p)
Dixons Group	197½p (+7p)
Shell	522½p (+9½p)
Ultramar	334½p (+8p)
Hammerson	674p (+14p)
Rosehaugh	60½p (+7p)
Rank Org	748p (+10p)
Security Services	480p (+23p)
Royal	455½p (+9p)
Legal & General	450½p (+10p)
FALLS:	
Liberty	505p (–10p)
WH Smith 'A'	370p (–8p)
Amec	225p (–10p)
YJ Lovell	184½p (–8p)
Tarmac	228½p (–16p)
Kleinwort Benson	308p (–14p)

Closing Prices...Page 33

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 12%
3-month Interbank 11 27/32-11¾%
3-month eligible bills: 11⅝-11 5/16%
US: Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 5⅞%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.69-5.68%*
30-year bonds 95 17/32-95 19/32*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7120	£: $1.7114*
£: DM2.9823	$: DM1.7420*
£: SwFr2.5000	$: SwFr1.4585*
£: FFr10.0608	$: FFr5.8760*
£: Yen236.09	$: Yen137.90*
£: Index:91.7	$: Index:66.5
ECU £0.691368	SDR £0.780006
£: ECU1.446407	£: SDR1.282041

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $356.90 pm-$355.50
close $355.00-355.50 (£207.25-207.75)
New York:
Comex $356.25-356.75*

NORTH SEA

Brent (May) ...... $20.00 bbl ($20.00)
* Denotes latest trading price

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 131.4 March (1987=100)

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Mismanagement blamed for recession

Tory record savaged by directors

By John Bell, business editor

BRITAIN'S business leaders have severely criticised the government's economic record, laying blame for the present recession on mismanagement and policy failures.

The attack, at yesterday's annual conference of the Institute of Directors, was the most hostile since the Confederation of British Industry promised a "bare knuckle fight" with the government in the early Eighties.

The recession was a failure of the government's economic management, Mr Peter Morgan, director general of the institute, said. He added that the government had "torpedoed" the business renaissance of the past decade by allowing runaway inflation.

And Robert Horton, the chairman of BP, complained that after 12 years of Conservative rule the economy was "beset by inflation".

"If, in May 1979, I had been told that this country was about to have the undoubted benefit of 12 uninterrupted years of Conservative rule, I would have expected a pretty generous Budget 12 years on — and certainly not one where the conquering of inflation remains the number one priority," *Mr Horton said.*

In the Commons, Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, challenged the prime minister to reply to the *IoD.* "Isn't *it* clear that as former Chancellor of the Exchequer, you must bear a special, personal burden of guilt?" he asked.

Mr Major replied: "If the difficulties the economy faced were solely the result of domestic economic mismanagement, it is an oddity therefore that there are recessions in the US, Canada, Australia, Sweden, Finland and many other countries as well."

Mr Kinnock said last week's government figures showed unemployment soaring and productivity collapsing. In a reference to yesterday's trade figures he said they showed that imports and exports were widely out of balance again, with imports rising twice as fast as exports.

"Is there any wonder that the IoD, like everyone else, understands very well that this is a recession hand-made in Downing Street by you?" But to Tory cheers, Mr Major replied: "If you care to examine the trade figures more carefully, you would find that export volumes are up on last year and import volumes are down."

Earlier, at the IoD conference, Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, speaking before Mr Morgan and Mr Horton, said that Britain will begin *pulling out of the recession in* the second half of this year. He was confident the government was on course to meet its objectives on beating *inflation,* but gave a warning that unemployment would continue rising for some time.

In his IoD speech, Mr Morgan complained that the government had failed to stay true to free market *ideals.* "This awful recession which is causing so much grief is the failure of government economic management," he said. "It is government failure, not market failure.

"We should expect government to deliver zero inflation, but because political survival is so often at stake, governments themselves cannot be relied on to resist the temptation to fuel inflation to win elections. "This is why the institute has called for an independent Bank of England."

Mr Morgan accused the Conservatives of failing to cut taxes sufficiently.

He questioned whether there was really any substantive difference between the economic policies of Conservative and Labour. "Make no mistake," he said "there are black clouds on the horizon of business.

"A high taxed economy means that business will be squeezed in the very years when it is expected to pull the country out of recession and *create new jobs.*"

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Comment, page 27

Dollar slides as data confirm US recession

By Anatole Kaletsky, economics editor

THE dollar fell sharply yesterday on evidence that the American economy was still mired in recession and signs that the world's central banks and finance ministries may co-operate to bring the foreign-exchange markets to heel.

The Commerce Department announcement that orders for durable goods in March fell 6.2 per cent, instead of rising slightly as economists had predicted, depressed the dollar more than two pfennigs to DM1.7430 in heavy New York trading.

Earlier, the German Bundesbank unsettled foreign-exchange dealers by leading intervention against the dollar, while European monetary officials indicated that there were strong prospects of an agreement on foreign exchange policy at Sunday's meeting of finance ministers and central bank governors in Washington.

One official said there was general agreement among the Group of Seven leading industrialised nations that the dollar had reached the top of its acceptable trading range. It was therefore likely that the G7 would issue an "asymmetrical" communiqué on currencies on Sunday, stating that current levels were acceptable, but that a further rise in the dollar would be a source of concern.

The G7 would also signal that it had no objections to a decline in the dollar provided it was not too steep. In the past, this formula has often been used to stop currency markets overshooting in the short term and then gradually to bring about a change in the trend.

The official conceded that philosophical differences among the G7 finance ministers were deeper than they had been for many years, with America emphasising growth and demanding lower interest rates, while Germany, Britain and Canada believed in the primacy of battling inflation. These disagreements, however, should not prevent the G7 agreeing on exchange-rate policy, he added.

The fall in American orders compared with an 0.3 per cent decline the month before and showed weakness across the whole range of manufacturing industry, including investment goods, transport and defence.

The significance of the figures was underlined by comments from Federal Reserve officials, which cast doubts on the growing assumption that the American economic recovery was about to begin.

Wider deficit fails to move markets

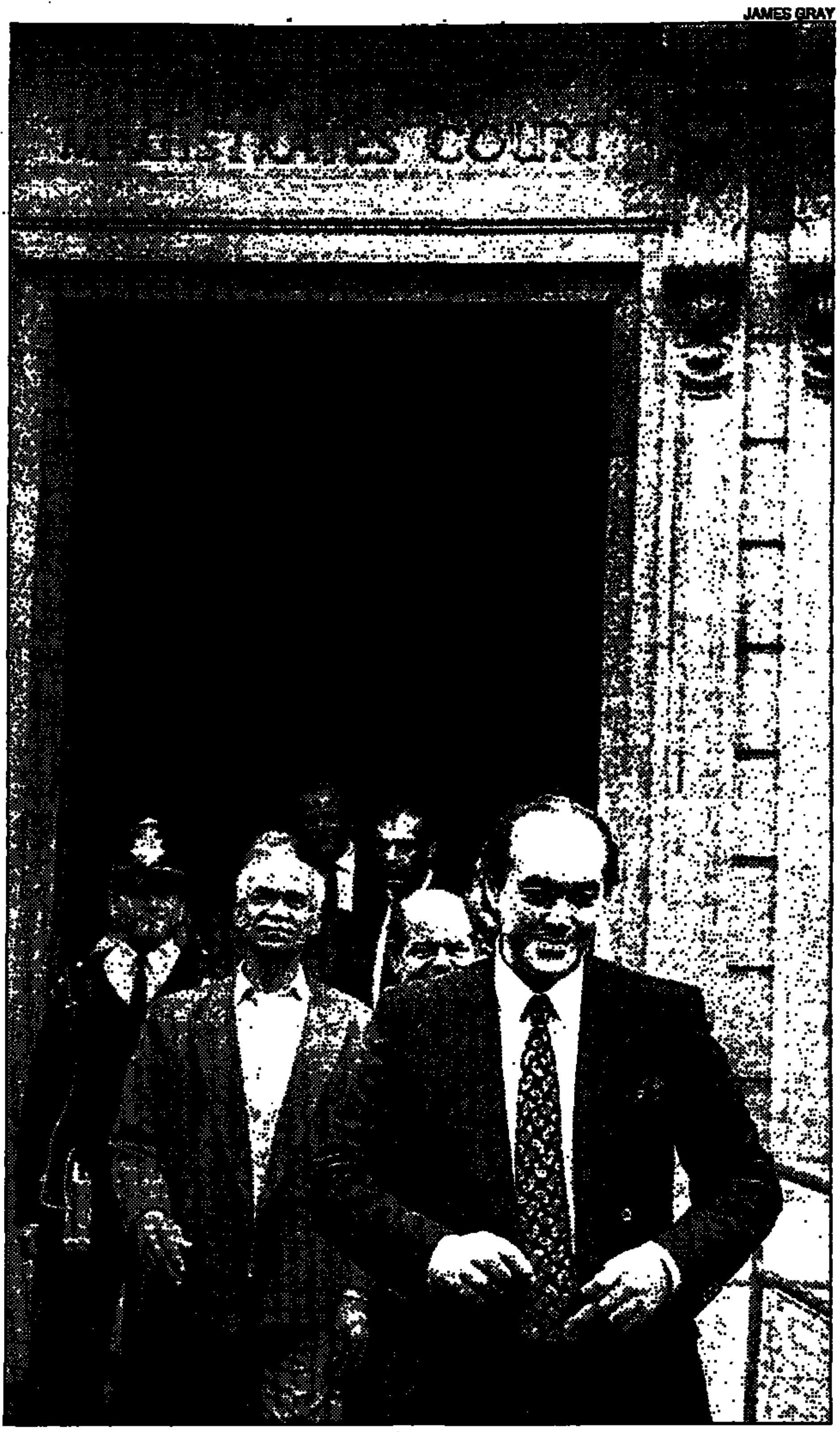
By Our Economics Editor

BRITAIN'S current account deficit widened to £432 million last month from £227 million in February, but most of the increase was due to erratic items, such as aircraft and precious stones.

The visible trade deficit was £932 million, while invisible items, such as tourist receipts, contributed a projected surplus of £500 million in the month.

The February current account deficit had been discounted by most economists as a statistical aberration and yesterday's figures had little impact on sterling or the financial markets. Economists said the underlying trend suggested a deficit for the year in line with the Treasury's forecast of £6 billion, but several gave warning that the current account could deteriorate sharply from the second half of the year onwards if the recession lifts.

Excluding erratics, the visible trade deficit in March was £1.147 billion, virtually unchanged from February. The value of exports in March was £8.4 billion, 1.5 per cent higher than in February, while imports rose 3.5 per cent to £9.4 billion.



JAMES GRAY

Court followers: Asil Nadir leaves Bow Street Magistrates with some of his fan club

Court allows Nadir to travel

By Angela Mackay

TURKISH-Cypriot supporters of Asil Nadir, the chairman of Polly Peck International who faces £25 million theft and false accounting charges, packed Bow Street magistrates court yesterday to hear variations made to his bail conditions.

Mr Nadir, who was granted record bail of £3.5 million in December, had the stringent conditions varied by chief metropolitan magistrate Sir David Hopkin to allow him to leave London if he gives three days' notice. He was also given permission to sign on weekly at a West End police station instead of daily.

More than 100 well-wishers, waving banners and placards proclaiming "We love Asil Nadir", applauded Polly Peck's chairman as he emerged from the court.

He climbed into an awaiting car accompanied by his former wife and by his sister, Bilge Nevzat, who chairs Noble Raredon. Mr Nadir was granted leave not to appear at the next hearing, which was set for July 9.

The administrators to Mr Nadir's fresh fruit, hotels and electonics company have been trying to reconstruct the company without selling any of its major assets such as Del Monte Fresh Fruit.

The administrators plan to refloat the company if the major creditors agree at a meeting to be held on May 24.

Leading builder seeks to raise £162m

By Matthew Bond

TAYLOR Woodrow, the construction company, is seeking £162 million from its shareholders, to invest in what it sees as growing opportunities in the depressed commercial property and housebuilding markets.

Under the terms of the rights issue, existing shareholders are to be offered one new share for every four they already own. The new shares will be issued at 200p, a 21 per cent discount to yesterday's opening price of 253p. Taylor Woodrow's shares closed 2p lower at 251p, helped by a board commitment "in the absence of unforeseen circumstances" to sustain the total dividend at least at the level of last year's 9.5p.

Peter Drew, the chairman, said the company would not be rushed into buying properties, just because it had raised money. "People have never known Taylor Woodrow to rush. We're not really keen on buying rubbish."

Mr Drew said his initial interest lay in acquiring retail property and indicated that one or two deals might be close to being agreed. "We're not raising money to put in a tea-caddy, we're raising money with some quite clear objectives in mind." He added that these opportunites had presented themselves since the company reported its annual results last month.

In recent years, a significant *proportion of Taylor Woodrow's* profits have been generated by selling properties from its £650 million property portfolio. In 1989, such sales accounted for £47 million of profit, although last year this fell to £28 million. Mr Drew intends to replenish the stock of investment properties, which could be sold in future years when property values have improved.

"Our shareholders did very well out of the two years of the property boom," Mr Drew said. "It may not be this year, it may not be next year, but I do like to think they would get at least another two good years in the future."

In the year to end-December the company reported pretax profits of £83.4 million.

Tempus, page 27

Beazer seeks £250m

By Martin Waller

BEAZER, the debt-stricken construction group, hopes to raise £250 million by floating off a *near-half* stake in its European business, including Beazer Homes, Britain's fourth largest housebuilder.

Beazer, which expects debts of £770 million by year-end in June, has already sold a stake in its Hong Kong subsidiary, Beazer Asia, but it has denied suggestions it might sell any of its third arm, Beazer US.

John Matthews, deputy chairman, said the company was examining the possibility of obtaining a listing in London for Beazer Europe and offering for sale a proportion of its shares. The aim was to raise £250 million.

The most likely flotation date would be the autumn.

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'YOUNG COMPANY OF THE YEAR'
1991 AWARDS

which will be presented later this year at a star-studded Gala Dinner to be held once again at the prestigious Hotel Hermitage, Monte Carlo in the beautiful Principality of Monaco.

The ten finalists and their guests will be flown in champagne style at twice the speed of sound in a SPECIALLY COMMISSIONED CONCORDE. The destination will be NICE on the Cote D'Azur, from where our chartered yacht will add a further touch of luxury as it eases its way across the blue Mediterranean, to the Monte Carlo Marina.

Here a reception will await and time made available to appreciate the delights of this most beautiful city. Later, following Dinner and the Presentations, the finalists will be our overnight guests, before returning to London on Concorde the following day.

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Company ______
Address ______
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Telex: 667052. Arrows G. Fax: 061-928 6948.

NatWest chief's bleak outlook

City warned on banks' bad debts

By Neil Bennett
Banking correspondent

THE chairman of National Westminster warned the City in a television interview, that Britain's banks cannot expect any early relief from the massive bad debts they suffered last year.

Lord Alexander was asked if provisions could reach the same level as last year. "That must be a possibility across the banking sector as a whole," he said. Last year, the main four clearing banks set aside £3.88 billion against bad debts.

Lord Alexander of Weedon told shareholders at the bank's annual meeting that National Westminster's profitability is still being hit by heavy debt provisions this year.

The chairman said that the bank had implemented a round of measures to cut costs, but "there will be no immediate improvement in performance." Last year, Natwest's profits before exceptional provisions slumped 64 per cent to £504 million, due to heavy bad debt write-offs.

Lord Alexander said that the benefits of the cost-reduction programme should begin to flow through in the second half of the year and promised a significant improvement in profits next year and in 1993.

National Westminster was forced to make a £1.15 billion provision against its loan book. A new report to the Securities and Exchange Commission in America shows the bank now has non-performing loans in Britain worth £1.28 billion and a further £1.19 billion abroad, mainly in America. All these are more than 90 days in default.

In his speech, Lord Alexander was optimistic on the future of NatWest Investment Bank. He said the bank, which lost £49 million last year, showed "encouraging signs of improvement", while the equities business, the main loss-maker "had met all the significant milestones which we agreed with the business for the first quarter".

Last February, Lord Alexander gave the bank up to two years to return to reasonable profits under threat of closure.

Sir Geoffrey Littler, the new chairman of NatWest Investment Bank, said that the subsidiary had made a small profit in the first quarter.

"We are on the right path," he said, "not only to survival, but profits." Sir Geoffrey said the bank had cut £20 million from its annual costs in the past year, while employee numbers have fallen by 250 to 2,300.

The British and European equities business is profitable, although the American operation is losing money.

Sir Geoffrey said that County NatWest's British equities business had increased its market share to 7 per cent, from a low point of 4 per cent in 1989.

INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

Chancellor signals shift in measure of inflation

NORMAN Lamont, the Chancellor, signalled a shift in the key measure of inflation used by the government yesterday.

Henceforth, retail price inflation (RPI) less mortgage interest payments would provide the best guide to the underlying rate, he said.

Mr Lamont added he would be paying close attention to surveys of business and consumer confidence for further evidence that "the worst may now be behind us". He was speaking to business leaders at the annual conference of the Institute of Directors at the Royal Albert Hall in London. Speakers repeatedly criticised the government for allowing inflation to resurge.

The Chancellor asserted that underlying inflation was now falling, but said the measure used in the recent past — RPI excluding mortgage interest payments and the community charge — would be meaningless in the coming year. That measure would include the Budget rise in value-added tax, but not community charge.

Since the VAT rise was designed to finance the cut in the community charge, only one element of the switch would be included.

The new measure, he said, would also exclude "short run volatility in the RPI" associated with changes in interest rates. "I am confident that we are on course to meet our inflation objectives, for a sharp and sustained reduction in the underlying as well as the headline rate," he said.

Mr Lamont also reiterated his Budget prediction that a recovery in output would begin, slowly at first, in the second half of the year.

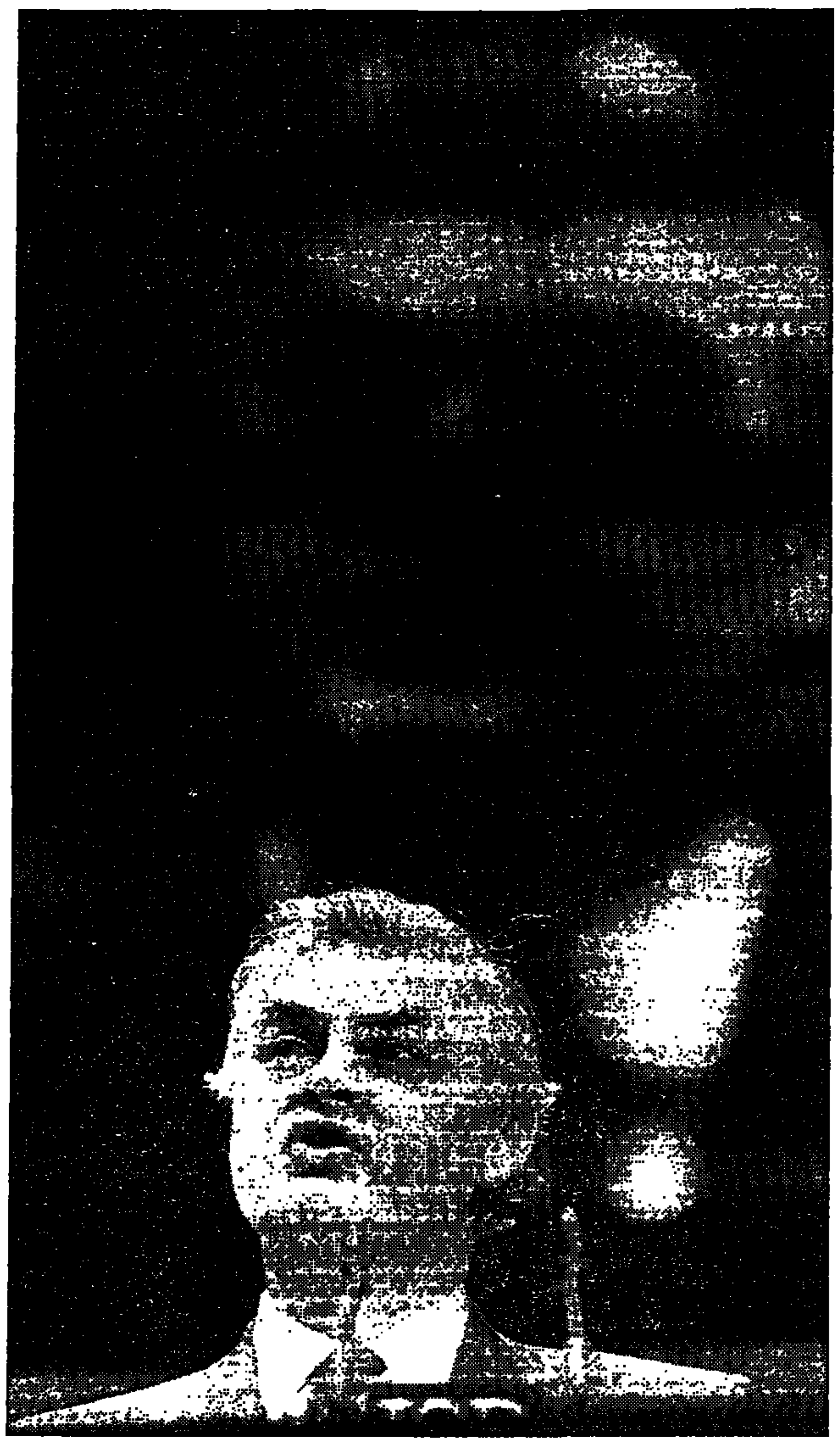
The Chancellor said he was acutely aware many firms were finding the economic climate difficult. However, the Budget cut in corporation tax, improvements in bad debt relief for companies and other measures had been designed to ease the burden.

Mr Lamont acknowledged the need to "learn the lessons of the 1980s" when borrowing and spending surged beyond the supply capacity of the economy. The financial deficit incurred by the corporate side of the economy was only partly triggered by investment. "Some of it also reflected the corporate sector's scramble to buy existing assets, a development that paralleled the personal sector's bidding up of house prices."

He said the government had confounded critics who argued membership of the exchange-rate mechanism would lock the economy into high interest rates. "The recent reduction in interest rates should pave the way for a more general improvement in business optimism." He said responses by businessmen to surveys by the Confederation of British Industry were "if anything a little more optimistic than a few months ago".

Comment, page 27

Reports by
WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU,
EUROPEAN BUSINESS
CORRESPONDENT,
AND ROSS TIEMAN,
INDUSTRIAL
CORRESPONDENT



On the spot: Norman Lamont faces IoD members at the Royal Albert Hall yesterday

De Klerk makes case for foreign investment

F. W. DE KLERK, the South African president and most applauded speaker during the conference, outlined in detail a new economic order for the country, based on a caring market economy whose free-market zest will be mitigated by the need to redistribute wealth to the country's black majority. Mr de Klerk also issued a strong plea for the resumption of business relations with South Africa.

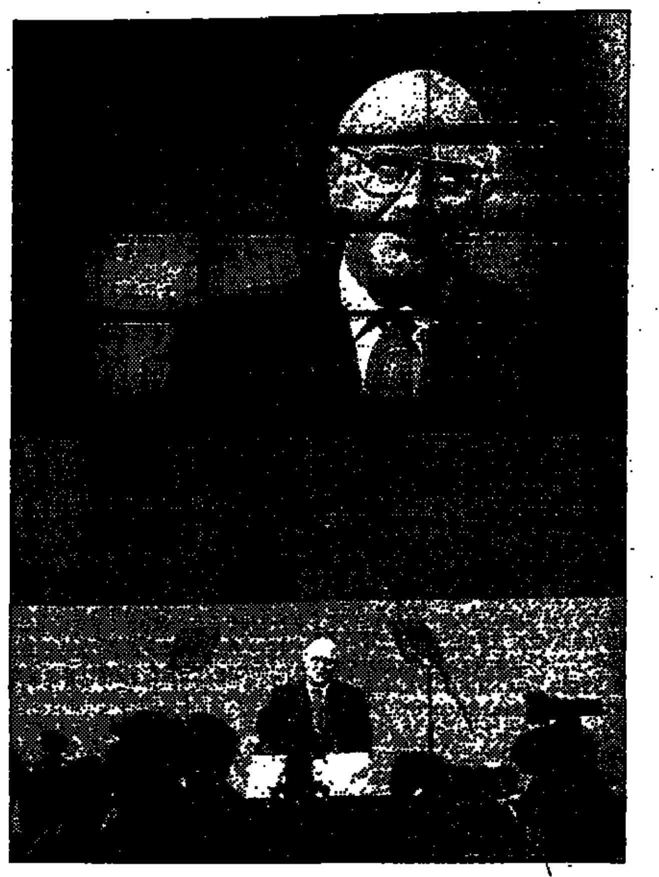
The South African president outlined a policy of strong economic growth, the fight against unemployment and restoration of universal property rights.

He told the conference: "What we need, just like any other developing country, is an inflow of long-term development capital in volumes sufficient to promote and sustain economic growth. Political reform will not in itself ensure such an inflow."

He added that "foreign investors should not be mesmerised by events in Eastern Europe. South Africa has a first-class infrastructure and can call on abundant natural and human resources".

He said:"Economic performance and political stability are of course closely interlinked, and it is therefore imperative that economic policy strike a fine balance between satisfying demands for a redistribution of income, and maintaining an economy capable of generating the funds required for this."

Mr de Klerk pledged his full support for the market system, based on private ownership. However, he acknowledged that the people of South Africa might become impatient in the process: "The demand of the person in the township street is 'I want it now'. While this cry is also heard from the dispossessed elsewhere in the world, it is given greater urgency in South Africa by the perception — right or wrong — that the disparities in our society are the outcome of the system of apartheid."



New order: De Klerk envisages a caring market economy

Spending priorities will be rearranged, he said, "in order to direct funds to the areas of greatest privation... Care is however being taken not to damage the job and wealth creating capacity of the modern sector of our economy".

Mr de Klerk added that 38 per cent of central government spending is currently directed at social spending, while education makes up 18 per cent.

"This indeed is the premier challenge for the political leadership in the country: the improvement of the quality of life of all the people of South Africa, but with special emphasis on the needs of the less advantaged," he said.

But he also indicated tougher monetary and fiscal policies: "Other elements are phased tax reform and a fiscal and monetary regime aimed at a gradual reduction in inflation, currently running at 14 per cent, to a level comparable with those of our main trading partners."

Call for proper 'green' audits

IT IS a sign of the times that no business conference these days can pass without a reference to the environment. During yesterday's, this task fell to Sir Crispin Tickell, formerly the British Ambassador to the United Nations. In his speech to the conference, Sir Crispin called for the introduction of proper system of environmental audits to achieve "the full social cost pricing of energy in such a way that the polluter paid".

Sir Crispin: social cost

He added: "The current price of fossil fuels does not include clearing up the mess they make."

Sir Crispin said that only governments can cope with such issues, while "business has to make its own judgments within ground rules set by the government.

"The more it takes account of environmental concerns, the less the government will be tempted to interfere," he said.

He concluded that "people have become rich making a mess over the last two hundred years.

"In my judgment, they could become richer clearing it up over the next two hundred."

French attacked for bucking the free market

THE Institute of Directors has a tradition of causing controversy on the issue of Europe, and this year the criticism was different only in style.

Peter Morgan, the director general of the IOD, took the opportunity to attack a number of EC policies, most notably the Community stance on the Gatt trade talks and the common agricultural policy. He also sharply criticised French government subsidies to industry. "One of the scandals of Europe is the double talk on subsidies," he said. "The Treaty of Rome is a classic free market document. But in practice, its principles have disappeared down the Appian Way. We are appalled by the recent action of the French government to support Bull, Thompson and Air France with literally billion of francs.

"The French government are supposed to subscribe to the Treaty, but they are pouring money into lame ducks faster than they poured vin ordinaire into the wine lake. And the French are not alone in this, as our members in the textile and engineering industries keep reminding me.

"We cannot allow nationalised firms to ruin the market for everyone else and then go running back to their governments to bail them out," he added.

Mr Morgan also launched a sharp attack on the Community's attitude during the Gatt trade talks, which he said could "put our exports at risk".

He went on: "It is difficult to see why we should sacrifice the Gatt for the Cap [common agricultural policy], which on a conservative estimate costs the average UK family nearly £800 a year, aggravates poverty, disadvantages the Third World, poisons our land and rivers, and disfigures the countryside. We want to see our government taking the lead and not just following the Franco-German line."

However, two of Europe's most prominent businessmen, Robert Horton, chairman and chief executive of British Petroleum, and Peter Wallenberg, the Swedish entrepreneur, emphasised in their speeches the need for Europe to take the lead in world industry.

Mr Horton, stressing a free-market approach, told the conference: "One of the reasons why I am such a firm supporter of Britain's membership of the community; of the creation of a single market; of Britain's membership of the exchange rate mechanism; and in particular of Leon Brittan's work towards a European competition and merger policy is precisely because I want Europe to lead the world in establishing free markets."

He called on the Community to set "an example in upholding free market principles rather than undermining them". Those principles, he added, were especially important in respect of free trade. "If we are interested in making a reality of free trade, we must ensure that within the Community the free trade Dr Jekylls prevail over the protectionist Mr Hydes," he said.

Dr Wallenberg, who has been a member of the IOD since 1959, called on Europe's industry to make a determined effort to continue the concentration process in order to maintain competitiveness against American and Japanese companies.

"Seen from a world market perspective, top European companies are not often enough global leaders," he said. "In electronics, Siemens ranks five behind three Japanese and one American company. In aerospace, BAe ranks four behind Boeing, United Technologies and McDonnell Douglas." He added that fragmentation was particular evident in the pharmaceutical industry, which has 56 plants in Europe but only 32 in North America, although the markets are of roughly equal size.

He also warned the conference to take the economic development in east Europe seriously. "East Europe will not only be our own responsibility but it is definitely in our own interest to help substantively in this difficult transition. Otherwise the risks of massive migration are obvious," he said.

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Rapid end to Gatt talks is 'essential'

By COLIN NARBROUGH

A RAPID conclusion to the Uruguay round of talks on freer trade is essential to give a confidence boost to the slowing world economy, Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, said.

Addressing the Gatt ruling council in Geneva, he said that there also had to be early movement in the negotiations, now in their fifth year, to reward those economies that have unilaterally reduced barriers to trade.

Finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven leading economies are expected to back Mr Dunkel's call for urgent progress in the Gatt round when they meet in Washington next weekend.

Nicholas Brady, the American treasury secretary, has urged his G7 partners to give priority to growth rather than inflation.

Mr Dunkel said continuing delay in reaching a new Gatt accord had created uncertainty for business at a time when protectionist pressure was mounting and, he added, the world economy was in its third successive year of slowdown.

In the absence of an early agreement, he said there was a danger that liberalisation measures already approved could be reversed.

The Uruguay round failed to meet its original deadline of agreement by the end of last year.

Negotiations restarted in February at an official level,

Call for delay in creating European central bank

From GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE creation of a European central bank would be delayed for two years, until 1996, under a proposal now being floated in the negotiations on European monetary union.

The suggestion has been hatched by Luxembourg, currently chairing the talks, in an attempt to bridge the gap between Germany and a group led by France and the European Commission which insists on a strict interpretation of the declarations made by the Rome summit last autumn. Those documents stipulated that some kind of central monetary institution would start work in 1994.

Germany argues that the central bank should not take over monetary operations until the third and final stage of developing a single currency, which has no fixed date.

Differing interpretations of last year's statement has already led to sharp words between Germany and the commission. In February, Jacques Delors, the president of the commission, accused the German government of reneging on its commitments to the monetary union timetable.

Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor of Germany, and President François Mitterrand of France are due to meet this evening for one of their frequent bilateral summits and issues concerning the European Community are at the top of the agenda.

Doctus shares fall on profit warning

By JONATHAN PRYNN

SHARES in Doctus, the management consultancy group, fell 8p to 39p when the company issued a profits warning for the current year and announced that the roles of chairman and chief executive had been split.

The company's statement said that profits this year would be less than analysts' forecasts of about £13 million because a number of client orders had been cancelled or delayed since the forecasts were published. The company said profits for the six months to end-March and for the full year to end-September are likely to be lower than last year. Doctus had pre-tax profits of £11.4 million last year.

Brian Blake, the chairman, who was criticised by shareholders for his doubled salary, is stepping down as chief executive, to be replaced by Alan Greenough. A non-executive deputy chairman will be appointed soon.

Tyne Tees defies fall in advertising

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT, FINANCIAL EDITOR

TYNE Tees Television, which holds one of the most sought-after television franchises in the forthcoming government auction, managed to increase its trading profits last year by 3 per cent to £7.1 million. The increase defied the industry trend, in spite of lower advertising revenues, which cut turnover by 10 per cent to £61.7 million.

After an increase in the exchequer levy to £2.8 million (£1.8 million) and lower investment income, pre-tax profit fell 19 per cent to £5.78 million. The dividend is maintained at 19p per share from earnings down from 44.1p to 36.2p.

Costs of applying for a new television licence have been written off as a £1.7 million extraordinary item net of tax.

Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison, chairman, said the advertising trend was worse than last year. Tyne Tees has welcomed the 19 per cent stake taken in February by Yorkshire Television, and hopes for benefits in marketing services from a Yorkshire subsidiary.

Oliver incurs loss

OLIVER Resources, the Irish oil explorer, has announced a pre-tax loss of Ir£780,338 previous 12-month period. Again, there is no dividend. Four exploration wells are

McCarthy & Stone loses £6m

By MATTHEW BOND

LOSSES at McCarthy & Stone, the specialist builder of retirement homes, have continued, as the housing market in many parts of the country continues in deep recession.

In the six months to end-February, the company made a pre-tax loss of £6.4 million, (£5.7 million loss). In the first half, the company sold 404 units, virtually unchanged on the year before.

At the half year, there were still 1,413 completed units for sale.

John McCarthy, chairman, said he was not expecting a significant recovery in trading until the second half of the next financial year, and that falls in interest rates to date have not yet restored consumer confidence.

"We look to a recovery in

National
Westminster
Bank

NatWest announces that
with effect from
Wednesday 1 May 1991
its Gold Plus overdraft rates
will be amended as follows:
borrowing up to and including
£10,000 reduced from
15.5% to 15% p.a.
Unauthorised borrowing over
£10,000 remains unchanged
at 22.5% p.a.

هكذا عن الأصل

Directors lost on the Appian Way

COMMENT

Et tu Brute, Norman Lamont might have said, had he waited at the Institute of Directors conference to hear the withering attack on government economic policy from Peter Morgan, the institute's director, backed up by Robert Horton, chairman of BP. Last time, the government was in deep trouble a decade ago, the CBI used to moan and vacillate and offer bare knuckle fights. The institute, consciously acting as an antidote to a mainstream employers' organisation dominated by manufacturers, stood steadfast behind Mrs Thatcher then, under the unrewarded leadership of Walter Goldsmith.

These days, the CBI has been put under "reliable" leadership, has marginalised the pesky manufacturers and espouses economic policies barely distinguishable from those of the post-Thatcher government. Since these are somewhat different from what was on offer ten years ago, the IoD has become the critic, linking recent economic failure with departure from principle. In government terms, Mr Morgan is an honourable man, but with an election on the way, such men are dangerous.

The government cannot escape blame for the return of significant inflation and the unexpectedly steep recession needed to stop it through monetary policy. The question is whether this was caused by a tactical mistake in economic management or by fundamental deficiencies of policy.

The established view points the finger at Nigel Lawson for lax monetary policy after the October 1987 stock market crash or, more correctly, from engineering the pre-election boom through tax cuts in the 1987 Budget that left him unable to make the correct reponse to the threats posed by the crash seven months later without taking a huge risk. If Mr Morgan and Mr Horton think that, there is not much point in them attacking a government that has gone the whole way to correct its mistake by recasting the framework of anti-inflationary policy and should soon taste some success for its efforts.

If, as appears, the IoD spotted a deeper failure, that surely stemmed from the original policy. The economic miracle was flawed. Industry became much leaner after 1981, but did not invest early enough against a background of high interest rates to be fit to cope with steadily increasing demand. The boom could only be met through more labour, diminishing productivity returns and higher pay settlements.

To avoid a repeat of that disappointment, the government will in future have to be much more cautious in fiscal policy regardless of how successfully it controlled public spending. In Mr Morgan's terms, there is surely some difference in these terms between Labour and Conservative policy.

Mr Horton's American prescription has not notably worked on its home ground, where stagnant productivity and capital spending hold the economy back. Mr Morgan is on surer ground in attacking the trend of European Community policy. As he rightly said, the free market spirit of the Treaty of Rome has been hijacked on the Appian Way. Any free market is to be strictly internal and Jacques Delors is busy organising secret cartels that can prosper behind a corporatist wall.

Having surrendered trade policies to Brussels, the government has been too willing to accept the comforts of continental protectionism. In theory, Britain could renew its determination to break down monopolies and market restrictions at home on sound economic principles. Against such a Community background, the risks to British industry would be enormous and the benefits to consumers still limited.

Honest Mips

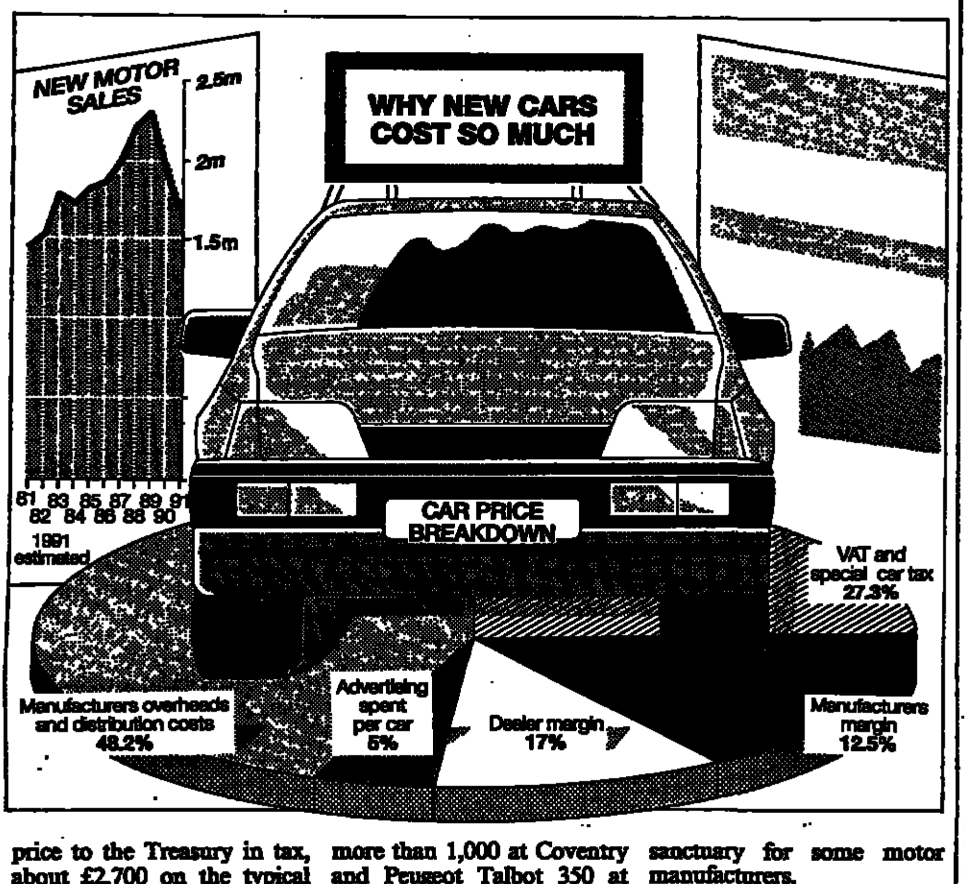
The Chancellor is at least an honest man. To pin his colours to a single measure of "underlying inflation", as he did in yesterday's IoD speech, was even courageous after years of vacillation on this issue, beginning with Sir Geoffrey Howe's universally ignored Tax and Prices Index. His chosen indicator — the retail prices index excluding mortgage interest payments — was also refreshingly honest. The "RPI ex Mips" may be a mouthful, but it comes close to making economic sense. In the longer run, an element for the capital value of housing would have to be considered, but given the expected stagnation in house prices this may not matter in the next year or so.

Honesty is one thing, manipulating markets and winning elections is something else. Next month, the latest headline inflation rate of 8.2 per cent will drop by at least two full points to about 6 per cent, as John Major boasted to the Commons yesterday.

However, the RPI ex Mips, which was 8.2 per cent last month, will fall by only 1.3 points, as a result of the last two years' changes in Budget duties, VAT and poll tax. Worse still, future cuts in mortgage rates will reduce the headline rate, but will not help with "underlying inflation".

Instead, the VAT hike, which looks like being spread over several months, may actually force underlying inflation up through the summer. Two daunting conclusions seem to follow — the Treasury will have even less interest in future in pushing down interest rates; and a 1991 election may be impossible, even in October.

Car makers fire on all cylinders in fight against crippling taxes



NORMAN Lamont will today face the pent-up frustration of the heads of Britain's four biggest car makers, which may suffer the loss of almost £1 billion in sales after the Budget.

It is thought to be the first time that a Chancellor has met a group of individual chairmen and managing directors so ready to vent their anger over government policies.

The four say they are not asking for special help for their problems from a Chancellor charged with curing the chronic disease of inflation, simply that the industry is treated in the same way as every other.

Motor manufacturers have suffered in silence for a decade from the repeated plunderings of chancellors who have seen the industry, which contributes £20 billion a year to the Treasury, as an easy target for taxation.

Mr Lamont has turned out to be no different, in spite of warnings that car sales in the United Kingdom were plummeting under the strain of high interest rates and the drop in orders for company vehicles.

The Chancellor told the Commons in his Budget speech that the success of British car makers, particularly in export sales, justified adding another 20 per cent to personal taxation on company cars and making employers pay national insurance contributions on each company car they provide.

In addition, fuel prices rose 15 per cent, while value-added tax was increased to 17.5 per cent.

But the four car chiefs — George Simpson of Rover, Geoffrey Whalen of Peugeot Talbot, Paul Tosch of Vauxhall and Derek Barron of Ford — will tell Mr Lamont that his seemingly blinkered optimism over the industry is hopelessly misplaced.

Exports will be not enough to shore up the huge losses in sales in a United Kingdom market, which, they claim, is one of the most heavily taxed in Europe.

The buyer of a new car pays 27.3 per cent of the showroom price to the Treasury in tax, about £2,700 on the typical £10,000 family car, compared with 22 per cent in France and just 14 per cent in Germany.

Of the 27.3 per cent, 10 per cent comes from a special car tax, the only extra tax levied on retail goods in the United Kingdom and the only one of its type thought to exist in Europe.

The car makers say abolishing the special car tax would stimulate desperately needed showroom interest and that the Chancellor could probably now afford to lose the £1.6 billion it brings in annually.

The industry estimates Mr Lamont's Budget measures will be worth £1.2 billion annually and extra showroom sales would mean extra income via VAT payments.

If Mr Lamont refuses to abolish the tax, the industry has given warning that there could be more of the same misery that has cost jobs and profits this year.

Ford is seeking 1,000 job losses at Halewood, Jaguar more than 1,000 at Coventry and Peugeot Talbot 350 at Ryton, Coventry, on top of the 350 lost at the end of last year.

Factories at Ford, Jaguar and Peugeot have all been on short-time working for the first time since the early Eighties to cut stocks and output levels.

First quarter sales of new cars, at 456,730, are 21.6 per cent below the January to March figure of last year, while sales so far this month have dropped by a third and show few signs of recovery.

It is forecast that sales this year will be down to 1.7 million, the lowest since 1982 and 600,000 down on the 1989 record.

As many as 100,000 sales will be wiped out because of the increases in value-added tax and company car tax.

Output for export this year is up by a remarkable 91.4 per cent on the year, but total production fell in March for the first time since last July, and, with key European markets slowing down, there will be no sanctuary for some motor manufacturers.

If Mr Lamont needs a graphic warning as to the problems faced by the industry, it could come from Mr Barron, chairman of the United Kingdom's biggest car producer.

Ford exports relatively few fully-built cars from Britain and relies to a large extent on company car sales to take its home-manufactured Escorts and Fiestas.

After a bad 1990, sales have continued to crumble this year, despite a huge marketing effort, with first quarter sales down from nearly 81,000 cars to fewer than 66,000.

Particular worries have centred on the future of Halewood, Merseyside, where Ford invested £600 million for assembly of the new Escort range.

Halewood is capable of manufacturing 1,100 Escorts every day; sales in March were just over 10,000.

KEVIN EASON
Motoring Correspondent

Taylor Woodrow builds concern

TEMPUS

Seeking £162 million: Peter Drew of Taylor Woodrow

TAYLOR Woodrow is primarily a construction company. Therefore, there are grounds for concern when it announces plans to raise £162 million to invest mainly in commercial property and housebuilding.

Only a few weeks ago, it was those areas that Costain, a similar sort of company, said it would be avoiding after it raised £77 million through a rights issue. Clearly, Peter Drew, chairman of Taylor Woodrow, sees something that Peter Costain, chief executive of Costain, does not. But, what is it?

Certainly, there are few clues provided by the commercial property sector, in which leading players, by and large, are conspicuous by their lack of buying activity. Many feel that commercial property is undergoing a radical restructuring and could remain depressed long after the rest of the economy has recovered.

However, Mr Drew is familiar with property's problems. Last month's results showed that the value of Taylor Woodrow's investment portfolio fell by a fifth as yields eased.

Profits from property disposals fell from £47 million to £28 million last year, but were still a significant proportion of pre-tax profits of £83.4 million. With the prospects for construction and housebuilding far from encouraging, the pressure for these property profits to be sustained is great — hence the one-for-four rights issue.

At 200p, the new shares have been priced on a discount existing shareholders are unlikely to turn down. At a theoretical ex-rights price of 242p, the shares are on an adjusted price/earnings multiple of more than 16, which should deter new buying.

Tarmac

THE absence of a rights issue from Tarmac, which had been rumoured, and maintenance of the dividend, which was never really in doubt, did little to appease a market dismayed at the effect of some horrific housebuilding results.

Tarmac, which has issued $300 million of Auction Market Preferred Stock (AMPS) and £107.5 million of convertible capital bonds in recent months, believes a rights offer would have been opportunistic, and is choosing instead to keep its balance sheet in shape by reducing its commitment to housing this year by £100 million, and by selling off perhaps £50 million of peripheral businesses.

As a result, gearing, only 26 per cent at the year-end, (but almost 40 per cent if the AMPS is included as debt), is expected to slip below 20 per cent by December.

Just as well, given that the trading outlook continues to look so gloomy. Poor weather in February compounded the recessionary problems, and is forcing followers to wonder whether Tarmac can improve much on last year's pre-tax £190.7 million, if at all.

Financing the AMPS and the new bonds issued last month, will eat into trading profits, which means an unchanged dividend may be covered even more thinly than the 1.5 accorded last year's payment. At 229p the shares are selling on a prospective earnings multiple of more than 14. Too soon to buy for recovery.

Cannon Street

LONG-STANDING investors in Cannon Street Investments have a right to feel aggrieved by the company's latest rights issue.

Four years ago they were asked to subscribe to new shares at 330p each to fund the mini-conglomerate's rapid expansion. In 1988, Cannon Street returned with another cash call, this time at 240p.

Later that year, the company returned to the market to float Betacom, which has since plunged into losses, and the shares, offered at 82p, have slid to 17p.

Cannon Street is issuing 25.7 million ordinary shares at 90p each and 25.7 million convertible preference shares to raise £46.7 million after expenses. The group clearly needs the cash. Since 1989, it has spent £83 million on acquisitions and developing its four leisure sites. Borrowings have risen to £107 million and pushed gearing to more than 400 per cent. The new capital will cut this to 81 per cent. The company has also tried to please investors by making the terms of the convertible issue particularly attractive with a gross yield of 13 per cent.

Cannon Street's results for last year do not make comfortable reading. Pre-tax profits fell 35 per cent to £17.3 million, while the final dividend is being held at 5.5p. Earnings per share of 17.2p are 5 per cent lower than in 1987. Investors should question whether to back Cannon Street's record with more of their hard-earned cash.

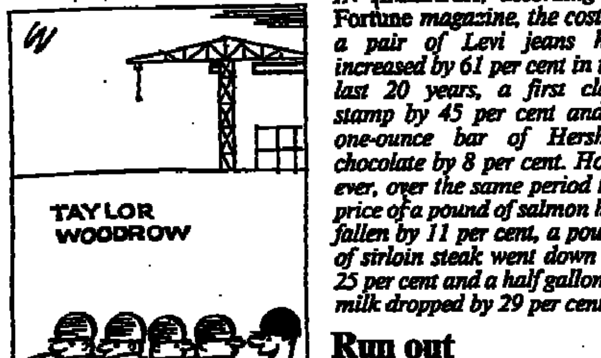
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Frank keeps lions at bay

FRANK Warren, one of Britain's most colourful promoters, has signed a £20 million deal to sell the London Arena to "an international company" on a leaseback arrangement. Warren, chairman of the Arena, has spent eight months putting together the deal, which may go a long way to putting the Docklands venue on a sound financial footing. He will not confirm the buyer's identity, saying only it represents "Scandinavian interests", but sources close to the Arena claim it is the Occidental Petroleum Pension Fund. "The deal has secured the future of the London Arena and we hope to complete within the next 28 days," says Warren, who has been asked to stay as consultant, but has yet to make up his mind.

Back office blues

TALES of job-losses in the Square Mile have become so familiar that any change is welcome — especially when it relates to Wall Street. The latest focus of attention is Barclays de Zoete Wedd which yesterday announced it is to close part of its equities operations in America with the loss of 60 jobs. The staff, most of whom work in New York covering research, sales and support activities, are to go after a review of costs led by Jonathan Davie, chief executive of BZW's equities division — and former managing director of the fixed income division with special responsibility for gilts. The 340 employees in BZW's other Wall Street activities, including a Treasury bond dealership and capital markets, swaps and mergers and acquisitions operations, will not be affected. Kent Logan, one of the firm's high-powered recruits across the Atlantic, has kept his place as chief executive of the American equities division. "It was a question of taking a hard look at the global equities operation and biting the bullet where America was concerned," says BZW.



"Me? I'm a one for four rights offer."

IN AMERICA, according to Fortune *magazine, the cost of a pair of Levi jeans has increased by 61 per cent in the last 20 years, a first class stamp by 45 per cent and a one-ounce bar of Hershey chocolate by 8 per cent. However, over the same period the price of a pound of salmon has fallen by 11 per cent, a pound of sirloin steak went down by 25 per cent and a half gallon of milk dropped by 29 per cent.*

Run out

THE excitement of the ADT London Marathon over the weekend somewhat overshadowed the finale of the British Open Squash championship. One of the stars — winning the over-55 group after a four-year absence — was Jeremy Lyon, a senior UK institutional equity salesman at James Capel. Lyon, who captained the England squash team from 1963 to 1970, was forced to retire prematurely for the simple reason that there was no cateogory for entrants between 50 and 55. "I play squash in the winter and tennis in the summer," says Lyon, who is a true Capel's man — joining the firm 22 years ago after a brief spell as a farmer near Colchester. "I enjoy sport since it stops you eating and drinking too much — an occupational hazard in the City these days." Most of the games were played at Lambs Squash Club in Chiswell Street, just over the road from The Brewery, where Capel seems to hold most of its seminars.

Star-spangled

KNOWN for his colourful dress sense, Dickie "Tio Pepe" Moore — one of the few remaining City characters still regarded as a legend in his own lunch-time — has, he discloses, more than 30 suits hanging in the wardrobe of his Leigh, Essex, home. Moore, aged 46, and head of market making at Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull, admits that most of the suits have either exceptionally spivvy chalk stripes or have gold or silver stars woven into their fabric. "I went along to choose my first suit after a particularly heavy night, about 20 years ago, and I think I must have still been drunk," he says. "When I went back for a fitting I suddenly realised that the fabric had stars in it. But then I thought: what the hell. Nowadays, if I handed one of my suits to someone else to wear it would provoke quite a reaction, but when I wear them it's just accepted as normal." Moore insists that apart from being a slightly eccentric extravagance, his suits have, in the past, actually been good for business. "When I got my first star-spangled suit it was in the days of the stock market floor," he says, "and within five minutes, there were so many people around my pitch that people thought that there must have been a new issue."

JON ASHWORTH

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British Fittings gains 7%

By JONATHAN PRYNN

A £750,000 start-up investment in Dubai by British Fittings Group of the West Midlands is likely to break into profits after only one year thanks to strong demand for its water pump products in the wake of the Gulf war.

British Fittings wrote off £116,000 in losses and start-up costs during the first year of operations of the Abdul Aziz Precision Pumps Establishment.

Sales and operating profits at the group's high-pressure water products division were both up 37 per cent at £21.68 million and £1.88 million, respectively.

The group's other divisions, pipeline equipment distribution and metal distribution, also saw profits advance.

Pre-tax profits for the group as a whole during the year to end-December were 7 per cent ahead at £6.21 million, on turnover up 22 per cent to £88.72 million.

Earnings were maintained at 19.74p a share compared with 19.45p. The final 5.975p dividend (5.775p) makes 7.35p for the year, a 5 per cent improvement on 1989.

St Ives shows rare fall in profits as growth seizes up

By MARTIN BARROW

ST IVES, the printer, has maintained its interim dividend, after suffering a rare decline in pre-tax profits, and warns of an abrupt halt to the strong growth of the Eighties.

The interim dividend is unchanged at 1.5p a share after a fall in taxable profits to £10.06 million (£13.59 million) for the six months to the end-January. Earnings fell to 6.8p (8.9p) per share.

Bob Gavron, the chairman, said that despite the perceived improvement in the outlook for the economy, the increase in confidence had yet to materialise at the business level. "There is a lot of optimistic talk but no concrete evidence of a pick-up," he said. "Trading conditions continue to deteriorate."

Ironically, financial printing, which suffered from the decline in corporate activity and accounted for much of the fall in earnings during the first half, was recovering, while other sectors were "showing signs of fatigue." In the first six months, Burrups, the main financial printing subsidiary, suffered a 50 per cent volume decline against the same period of the previous year, and a healthy profit was transformed into a small loss. But in the first weeks of the second half a sudden increase in rights issues by quoted companies transformed the picture.

Turnover fell to £108.5 million (£117 million), reflecting the downturn in volumes.

However, St Ives has stuck to its policy of maintaining capacity at existing levels, although its has also accelerated its profit improvement programme, reducing the number of manufacturing sites from 27 to 19 and the number of employees by 15 per cent without an overall reduction in capacity. Capital expenditure in the current year is estimated at £25 million (£26 million).

Last year, St Ives set aside £7.5 million as an extraordinary charge to cover anticipated closure and redundancy costs. This item, plus continued investment, means the company, which had no net borrowings, should end the current year with gearing of about 15 per cent, although this would be eliminated through cashflow early next year.

Mr Gavron, who has persistently adopted a more cautious approach to the economic outlook than many of his peers, forecasts a slow recovery next year rather than a sudden boom.

"By that time our reorganisation will be complete along with our five-year programme of heavy capital investment," Mr Gavron said.

Realist: Bob Gavron is waiting for more than talk

Ward gives profit warning for worst market in 45 years

By MATTHEW BOND

WARD Group, the Yorkshire building component and structural steel company, believes market conditions in the British construction industry are the worst in the company's 45-year history.

After reporting a 31 per cent fall in profit last year, Nigel Forsyth, the chief executive, gave a warning that profits this year would be even lower. "I can only wish that we could keep these results for 1991, but life is a lot tougher now. Our profits will be lower in 1991."

Although sales in 1990 fell only by 1 per cent to £173 million, pre-tax profits slid from £12.6 million to £8.7 million in the year to end-December, as margins came under pressure. Despite the lower profits and the current trading conditions, the final dividend is being maintained at 4.8p, to give an unchanged total of 7.2p.

Mr Forsyth believes there will be no early relief for those dependent on British construction orders. "For our United Kingdom businesses I don't think the market has bottomed." He pointed out that the market for structural steel, one of Ward's three main activities in Britain, is likely to fall by 43 per cent this year.

The markets for Ward's other businesses in Britain, metal cladding and curtain walling, are expected to shrink even more substantially, as commercial property development slows dramatically.

Mr Forsyth believes, however, that the group is holding its own in a reduced market, and is heartened by a recent contract for structural steel at Canary Wharf.

Ward has some protection from the British decline. About 39 per cent of sales (36 per cent in 1989) are in continental Europe. The company has manufacturing capability in Italy, France and Belgium.

Mr Forsyth said the European businesses would keep Ward going this year. Gearing was 26 per cent at the year-end against the 39 per cent that the group reported at the halfway stage.

FR holds dividend as profit slips 6%

By OUR CITY STAFF

HIGHER than expected inflation and continued cutbacks and delays in defence procurement left pre-tax profits at FR Group, the aviation products maker, 6 per cent down at £21.3 million last year.

Turnover rose 10 per cent to £169.2 million. Net interest income was £4.3 million (£4.8 million). The final dividend is being maintained at 4.14p, making a same-again 6.37p. Earnings per share slipped from 20.75p to 20.07p.

Michael Cobham, the chairman, described 1990 as "a difficult year for UK manufacturing" because of high inflation and the weak dollar. Inflation hit the defence industry particularly hard due to the policy of "strict financial restraint" adopted by the defence ministry as a result.

This manifested itself in delays to, and reductions in, the procurement of defence equipment. In addition, virtually all the members of Nato delayed procurements after reviews of defence policy carried out in the light of better East-West relations.

However, many of the key operating subsidiaries showed increases in sales and profits, including the Flight Refuelling operations, which last summer won contracts from the British and French to supply the Falconet target aircraft.

At the end of the year, the division absorbed the loss-making military container business of WES. Mr Cobham viewed the long-term outlook for the group with "measured confidence", though the timing of some orders could adversely affect it this year.

McKechnie rides recession

By OUR CITY STAFF

McKECHNIE, the Walsall metals and plastics group, has reported improved profitability in its American and British businesses, but predicts no improvement in underlying demand until later this year.

Michael Ost, chief executive, said the company had been able to ride the worst of the recession so far by making cost reductions in excess of the continuing decline in demand.

Mr Ost said that staff numbers are running at 10 per cent below last year and further cuts are expected in the second half.

Interim pre-tax profits for the half year to end-January, were down 17.3 per cent to £10.5 million as a result of disposals, a poor performance from the Australasian operations and adverse exchange-rate movements.

The company will receive a total of £53 million cash from its withdrawal from British metals, which will contribute earnings enhancing interest income of up to £6 million in the next financial year, Mr Ost said. The sales of the metals businesses, which took place between last August and last month, will reduce year-end gearing to below 10 per cent.

The companies that have been sold contributed about £30 million of turnover last year. McKechnie has said that it intends to use its strong balance sheet to make acquisitions in Europe and America. Mr Ost said the company was currently looking at "two or three interesting prospects".

Australasian operations, which have annual sales of £90 million, continued to trade at a low level of profitability and no improvement is expected in the second half.

The half-year dividend has been held at 5p compared with earnings of 8.8p, down 16.2 per cent on last year's 10.5p.

Farnell hopes for European acquisition

FARNELL Electronics is gearing up for an acquisition in mainland Europe after increasing its cash reserves from £13 million to £29 million last year. The Yorkshire company makes and distributes components and equipment.

Pre-tax profits rose to £33.8 million (£30.6 million) helped by an increase in investment income. Earnings per share were 16.3p, compared with 14.5p. A final dividend of 3p a share makes a total of 5.5p for the year, up from 4.8p. Shares rose from 204p to 207p.

More business news, page 35

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

UK may lag behind Norway in oil output

NORWEGIAN oil output is expected to exceed offshore British output this year for the first time since North Sea production began. Analysts at County NatWest Woodmac forecast average Norwegian output of 1.94 million barrels per day, slightly below February's record of 1.96 million barrels per day.

British output is forecast at 1.86 million bpd, recovering slightly from last year's depressed levels of 1.84 million bpd, but still well below the 1987 peak of more than 2.3 million bpd. British production will continue to be hampered by extended maintenance programmes in the North Sea this year. Maintenance of Norwegian rigs will reduce output by up to 24 million barrels, but a strong recovery in the final quarter is likely to see production exceed 2 million bpd, helped by the first production from the Oseberg North development.

3i sets up £20m fund

A £20 million fund to invest in small businesses in inner city areas has been set up by 3i, the investment capital group owned by a panel of leading banks. Businesses will be introduced to 3i by the Department of the Environment's City Action Teams. The fund will aim to invest between £30,000 and £50,000 at a time in exchange for shares in start up or growing businesses.

VTR slumps 28% half way

VTR, the unlisted securities market video post-production company, has reported a 28 per cent fall in interim pre-tax profits to £431,526 from £601,617 to end-February. Profits were hit by higher interest charges of £124,000 caused by borrowings. Gearing of 50 per cent is expected to fall to below 35 per cent by the end of the current year. The interim dividend is 1.2p (1.1p).

Bridgend rises 74%

BRIDGEND Group, the hotel operator and bathroom and electrical goods distributor, said it is considering a cash takeover offer for Cowan, de Groot, the toys and industrial hardwares company. Bridgend said it is responding to the all-paper bid for Cowan from Wilton, a property company that holds a 29.9 per cent stake in Cowan and shares some of its directors. Bridgend has a 10 per cent stake in Cowan.

Bridgend unveiled a 74 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £1.06 million for last year. Earnings per share rose by 13 per cent to 3.5p a share, and the final 0.8p dividend makes 1.2p for the year, up 20 per cent.

QS Holdings climbs 30%

QS HOLDINGS, the clothing retailer increased pre-tax profits 30 per cent to £7.20 million in the year to January 25. Earnings rose 28 per cent to 11.65p (9.11p) a share. The company is paying a final dividend of 3p a share, making a total of 4.31p for the year. The shares rose from 193p to 204p, against last year's placing price of 100p and turnover rose to £42.34 million.

Cosalt drops 38% to £1m

COSALT, the fishing industry supplier and caravan maker, reports a 38 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £1.01 million during the six months to March 3. The interim dividend is unchanged at 4.25p. Earnings per share fell from 9.36p to 5.9p. The fishing industry remained depressed with North Sea fishing quotas running at 40 per cent below 1988 levels.

Allied London in red

ALLIED London Properties reported a pre-tax loss of £5.4 million (£3.9 million profit) for the six months to end-December, after an £8 million write-down in the value of its housebuilding land bank and unsold houses. Rents from its commercial properties grew 19 per cent to £7.3 million on the period, well ahead of an interest charge of £3.7 million. As a result, the board was confident enough to pay an unchanged interim dividend of 1.075p.

In its last full-year results, Allied described 1989/90 as the worst year for housebuilding it had experienced, but took a provision of only £1.9 million against its landbank.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

1991 High	1991 Low	Company	Price Bid	Price Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 91.7 (day's range 91.5-91.7).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Apr 23	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.6925-1.7125	1.7115-1.7125	0.87-0.85pr	2.27-2.25pr
Montrl	1.9586-1.9805	1.9768-1.9805	0.44-0.39pr	0.77-0.68pr
Amstrdm	3.3554-3.3682	3.3554-3.3591	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	61.12-61.50	61.12-61.22	18-14pr	43-38pr
Copnhgn	11.3678-11.4218	11.3678-11.3916	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dublin	1.1160-1.1194	1.1160-1.1170	28-20pr	61-51pr
Frankft	2.9806-2.9890	2.9806-2.9840	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	255.09-256.65	256.27-256.28	9-37ds	58-111ds
Madrid	183.30-184.48	183.30-183.92	23-29ds	60-70ds
Milan	2194.70-2208.83	2198.65-2203.58	1pr-par	2pr-par
Oslo	11.5899-11.6264	11.5749-11.5988	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	10.0534-10.0902	10.0534-10.0678	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stckhlm	10.5917-10.6494	10.6233-10.6486	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	234.58-236.31	235.93-236.24	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	20.95-21.04	20.95-20.98	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	2.4939-2.5056	2.4979-2.5020	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel. Premium = pr. Discount = ds.

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 12 Finance Hse 13

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 12 Low 11 Week fixed: [illegible]

Treasury Bills (Dis): [illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Trade Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	[illegible]	
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Overnight: open 12, close 6.					
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	6.12-6.07	6.15-6.10	6.16-6.11	6.28-6.23	6.85-6.80
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8-7
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $357.30-357.80 Close: $355.00-355.50 High: $357.40-357.90 Low: $355.00-355.50 Krugerrand: $354.75-355.75 (£206.75-207.75)

Sovereigns: Old $84.00-85.00 (£48.75-49.75) New $83.00-84.00 (£48.25-49.25)

Platinum: $389.50 (£226.85) Silver: $3.92 (£2.286) Palladium: $100.00 (£58.75)

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	16709.9-16731.9
Australia dollar	2.1973-2.2008
Bahrain dinar	0.6355-0.6435
Brazil cruzeiro*	435.994-436.548
Cyprus pound	0.80-0.81
Finland marka	6.935-6.995
Greece drachma	320.90-324.10
Hong Kong dollar	13.3021-13.3117
India rupee	34.10-34.50
Kuwait dinar KD	n/a
Malaysia ringgit	4.6969-4.7069
Mexico peso	5030-5130
New Zealand dollar	2.9000-2.9069
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.32-6.40
Singapore dollar	3.0306-3.0342
S Africa rand (fin)	5.6353-5.7333
S Africa rand (com)	4.7631-4.8946
U A E dirham	6.1675-6.2675

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5265-1.5280
Singapore	1.7745-1.7755
Malaysia	2.7560-2.7590
Australia	1.2689-1.2801
Canada	1.1556-1.1561
Sweden	6.2350-6.2400
Norway	6.6000-6.6050
Denmark	6.6900-6.6950
W Germany	1.7533-1.7543
Switzerland	1.4663-1.4670
Netherlands	1.9720-1.9730
France	5.9120-5.9170
Japan	138.45-138.55
Italy	1294.0-1295.0
Belgium (Com)	36.00-36.04
Hong Kong	7.7927-7.7937
Portugal	150.00-150.20
Spain	107.55-107.65
Austria	12.34-12.36

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Mar 28, 1991 Agreed rates Apr 23, 1991 to May 25, 1991 Scheme I: 13.52%. Schemes II & III: 13.71%. Reference rate Mar 1, 1991 to Mar 28, 1991 Scheme IV & V: 12.472%.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100. Previous open interest: 25141	Jun 91	2514.0	2536.0	2513.0	2527.0	9377
	Sep 91				2569.0	0
	Dec 91				2613.0	0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 129406	Jun 91	88.64	88.65	88.57	88.59	25902
	Sep 91	89.23	89.26	89.20	89.25	6792
	Dec 91	89.49	89.54	89.47	89.49	1759
Three Month Eurodollar Previous open interest: 34697	Jun 91	93.60	93.70	93.60	93.67	2211
	Sep 91	93.27	93.36	93.25	93.37	972
Three Month Euro DM Previous open interest: 109179	Jun 91	90.64	90.66	90.63	90.66	11107
	Sep 91	90.77	90.81	90.75	90.80	6040
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest: 9873	Jun 91	95-10	95-23	95-09	95-14	2587
	Sep 91				94-24	0
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 31716	Jun 91	91-28	92-06	91-25	91-28	13805
	Sep 91				92-04	0
Japanese Govt Bond	Jun 91	95.68	95.75	95.68	95.67	257
	Sep 91				96.01	0
German Govt Bond Previous open interest: 79284	Jun 91	85.14	85.45	85.14	85.43	41591
	Sep 91	85.48	85.68	85.48	85.69	349
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 2584	Jun 91	90.60	90.64	90.60	90.65	325
	Sep 91	90.73	90.76	90.73	90.76	21

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1991 High	1991 Low	Company	Price Bid	Price Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX

COCOA		COFFEE		SUGAR (FOB) C Czarnikow	
May	644-643	May	579-578	May	174.0-73.0
Jul	668-667	Jul	603-602	Aug	174.0-73.2
Sep	693-692	Sep	622-621	Oct	174.6-74.0
Dec	724-723	Nov	640-638	Dec	175.0-72.0
Mar	753-752	Jan	657-655	Mar	174.0-73.0
May	773-772	Mar	669-668	May	175.4-74.0
Vol:	8471	Vol:	3819	Vol:	958

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT Close (£/t)		BARLEY Close (£/t)		HI-PRO SOYA Close (£/t)	
May	138.35	May	118.05	Jun	124.0-23.0
Jun	140.00	Sep	107.85	Aug	125.0-24.5
Sep	110.70	Nov	111.00	Oct	130.0-29.0
Nov	113.70	Jan	114.30	Dec	134.0-33.0
Jan	117.10	Mar	117.05	Feb	138.0-35.0
Vol:	243	Vol:	92	Vol:	290

LONDON POTATO FUTURES Volume: 136

	Open	Close
May (£/tonne)	134.0	137.0
Sep	80.0	80.0
Oct	80.0	80.0

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on April 23

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	85.68	224.79	111.10
(+/-)	+1.49	+18.91	+1.78
Eng/Wales:	85.20	225.94	109.62
(+/-)	+2.19	+19.10	+2.16
(%)	-10.6	+4.4	-9.0
Scotland:	88.66	214.09	115.81
(+/-)	+1.32	+15.24	+0.78
(%)	-50.3	-18.8	-13.0

* Estimated dead carcase weight

LONDON MEAT FUTURES

Live Pig (/kg)

	Open:	Close:
Apr	ung	111.5
May	ung	114.5
Jun	ung	116.3

Volume: 109

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR) - London 6.00pm: Early strength in the products complex faded as the day progressed.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.65	-0.10
Brent 15 day (May)	20.00	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Jun)	19.50	-0.05
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	21.15	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	20.90	-0.15

PRODUCTS (Buy/sell $/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	245 (+2)	248 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	190 (+2)	191 (+2)
Non EEC 1H May	191 (+1)	192 (+1)
Non EEC 1H Jun	184 (n/c)	185 (n/c)
3.5 Fuel Oil	70 (n/c)	71 (n/c)
Naphtha	205 (+1)	207 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES

GAS OIL

May	185.00 BID	Sep	180.75-80.50
Jun	181.50 BID	Oct	182.75 SLR
Jul	178.25-77.50	Nov	182.75 SLR
Aug	179.50-79.00		Vol: 12419

BRENT

May	19.90-19.95	Jul	19.10-19.15
Jun	19.40-19.50		Vol: n/a

BIFFEX
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 91	1625	1612	1623
May 91	1585	1580	1606
Jul 91	1270	1255	1270
Oct 91	1380	1345	1380

Vol: 235 lots Open interest: 2912
Dry cargo index 1600 +4

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1468.5-1469.5	1444.0-1445.0	566350
Lead (£/tonne)	361.50-362.00	356.00-356.50	124975
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1250.0-1255.0	1183.0-1185.0	175750
Tin ($/tonne)	5535.0-5537.0	5627.0-5630.0	5065
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1375.0-1376.0	1403.0-1404.0	633225
Nickel ($/tonne)	9120.0-9130.0	9100.0-9105.0	11316

FOX MGMI INDEX (3pm prices)

	Bid	Offer
May	152.80	153.80
Jun	151.90	152.90
Jul	ung	ung

Vol: 324

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هكذا عن الأصل

DAY APRIL 24 1991

ROUNDUP

g behind
oil output

VTR slumps
28% half way

ses 74%

Cosalt drops
38% to £1m

don in red

STOCK MARKET

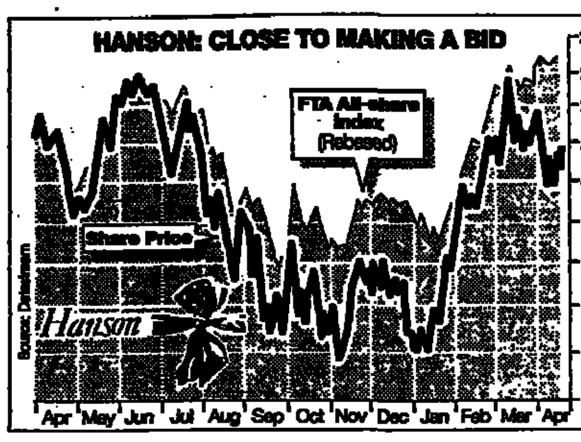
Absence of sellers lifts prices

MARKET-MAKERS were starting to feel the squeeze again as a continued absence of sellers saw prices pushed higher after a hesitant start.

Selective support for the dollar earners, coupled with demand for the FT-SE 100 futures positions, had the bears on the run, although turnover remained thin with 520 million shares changing hands.

The FT-SE 100 index closed below its best with a rise of 13.0 at 2,503.8 after Wall Street saw an opening lead whittled away. The FT index of 30 shares rose 11.4 to 1,965.8.

Hanson: bid speculation



The latest trade figures made little impression on the equity market as central banks stepped in to halt the strong rise in the dollar. Government securities spent a lacklustre day, closing virtually unchanged before today's auction of the new tap stock.

The **BET** industrial services group put in a late rise, climbing 7p to 167p. There is talk that the group is close to concluding the sale of its Biffa waste disposal group. It had been suggested that BET wanted up to £250 million for Biffa but that it may have settled for nearer £200 million. The proceeds will be used to reduce borrowings, estimated at about £500 million.

Hanson, where Lord Hanson is chairman, was another firm market, advancing 4p to 228p on mounting speculation that the group is close to making its long-awaited mega-bid. The group raised £500 million this month by a bond issue. The list of likely targets in this country includes **Allied-Lyons**, down 1p at 525p, **Blue Circle Industries**, unchanged at 245p, **BPB Industries**, 2p firmer at 228p, **ECC Group**, steady at 425p, and **Pilkington**, 4p cheaper at 187p.

In reality, the speculators have little idea where Hanson will strike next or even if the bid will be in this country. A bid in the United States is another option open to the group.

Glaxo hardened 4p to £10.76 as the Bank of New York announced that the number of shares it holds in nominee form on behalf of American investors now stands at 270.8 million, or 18.08 per cent. Andrew Porter, an analyst at Nikko, the Japanese securities house, points out that the shares have been under a cloud recently because of the patent dispute involving Zantac. Investors have been switching into **SmithKline Beecham**, down 5p at 817p. But Mr Porter says that Glaxo is likely to win over Zantac and he is urging clients to start buying the shares again.

Sema, the Anglo-French computer software group, fell 3p to 291p amid claims that Cap Gemini Sogeti wants to sell its 23 per cent stake. There are several blocking stakes, making the prospect of a bid remote. BZW says the shares, down from 525p since November, are a sell.

Taylor Woodrow, the property and construction group, touched 239p before rallying to close only 2p lighter at 251p after announcing plans to raise £162.4 million by a rights issue. The terms are one-for-four at 200p and the group says it will use the money take advantage of depressed market conditions and buy property and housing assets. The group reported the early signs of an upturn in the housing market.

Tarmac lost a 10p rise to finish 16p lower at 229p after reporting figures in line with City expectations. Pre-tax profits for the full year tumbled from £377 million to £190.7 million with earnings virtually halved. The group blamed the recession which has hit the building and construction industry hard. But analysts were unsympathetic with BZW cutting its forecast for the current year from £210 million to £164 million.

The downgrading also affected other construction companies with **YJ Lovell** 8p down at 185p, **John Mowlem** 10p at 312p, **Higgs and Hill** 5p at 284p, **Amec** 10p at 225p and *George Wimpey* 2p at 212p.

GEC held steady at 199p before a presentation for analysts. They were hoping to glean further information about the £1 billion contract for railway wagons awarded to the GEC-Alsthom consortium this week. But, generally, business remains dull and analysts are now doubting GEC's wisdom in buying Plessey and parts of Ferranti.

Cadbury Schweppes also met analysts to discuss its soft drink operations and finished 5p cheaper at 380p. Analysts say that the soft drinks side may be slowing down after several years of strong growth.

Cannon Street Investments, the industrial holding company, jumped 18p to 124p after reporting a downturn in pre-tax profits from £26.5 million to £17.3 million. The group complained that trading in the first two months of the current year had been affected by the Gulf war and severe weather. Cannon Street also plans to raise £48.8 million by a placing of convertible preference shares and a rights issue on the basis of one-for-three at 90p. The proceeds will be used to cut borrowings.

McCarthy & Stone, the builder and operator of sheltered accommodation, eased 2p to 93p after a reporting an increased loss of £6.4 million (against £5.7 million last time). The group remains cautious about sales for the rest of the year although there are signs of a pick-up in the south of England.

British Steel fell 2½p to 135p in late trading as Smith New Court, the company's broker, drastically cut its profit estimates. SNC had been looking for a pre-tax profit of £145 million but is now forecasting a loss of £50 million. The move is likely to raise renewed fears about the safety of the dividend.

Tootal held steady at 76p as **Coats Viyella** extended its £194 million bid until May 6 after receiving acceptances for 30.1 per cent. Anthony Habgood, Tootal's chief executive, said Coats's offer had fewer acceptances than two weeks ago. He said: "Coats is gearing up for yet another failure with this cheap offer." Coats was steady at 139p.

National Westminster Bank firmed 1p to 330p despite a gloomy statement from Lord Alexander, the chairman, at the annual meeting.

Similar statements on current trading are expected from the other clearers during the next week or two. But **Barclays** firmed 4p to 462p while **Midland** was unchanged at 221p and **Lloyds** slipped 2p to 341p.

The recent slide in the water shares continued, although losses were restricted. Foreign investors are continuing to unwind their positions before the ending of dealings in the water package, scheduled for July. They are also worried about political uncertainty. Falls were seen in **Anglian**, 3p to 283p, **Northumbrian**, 2p to 318p, **Southern**, 1p to 269p, **South West**, 3p to 291p, **Thames**, 3p to 299p, **Welsh**, 2p to 322p, and **Yorkshire**, 7p to 311p. The water package ended £23 lower at £2,945.

But the electricity companies attracted fresh support before the flotation of the Scottish power generators. The electricity package advanced £40 to £2,060 while the generators were better with **National Power** 1p up at 130½p and **PowerGen** 2p heavier at 131½p. Among the distributors, **Eastern** rose 3p to 192p, **East Midlands** 1p to 200p, **London** 2p to 198p, **Manweb** 13p to 248p, **Midland** 2p to 198p, **Northern** 4p to 205p, **Norweb** 3p to 205p, **Seeboard** 6p to 200p, **Southern** 2½p to 203½p, **South Wales** 10p to 240p, **South West** 4p to 213p and **Yorkshire** 2p to 216p.

MICHAEL CLARK

Holmes passes payout

HOLMES Protection, the New York security services company that is listed in London, is passing dividend payments for last year (1.2 cents) and is continuing talks with lenders to refinance debts of $61.6 million after failing to meet repayments of $24.6 million that were due earlier this year.

Net profits of $5.9 million ($20.56 million loss) included an extraordinary credit of $2.14 million arising from the settlement of long-running litigation, an exceptional credit of $556,000 from the adjustment of severance payments, and profits from the sale of assets of $5.05 million.

Tax windfall

The Building Societies Association has called on the government to remove clause 50 of the Finance bill, which will prevent societies from claiming back double taxation imposed on them in 1985-6. The government says without the change, societies would receive a windfall gain of £250 million. But the association says societies would be able to *offer their members* higher savings rates and lower mortgage rates if the tax was claimed back.

EIT value rises

Edinburgh Investment Trust, Scotland's largest trust company, reported a 0.8 per cent rise in its net asset value to 263p per share in the year to end-March, boosted by the strong gain in the stock market. The rise compares with the heavy falls in value reported by rival trusts that close their year in December. The trust is paying a 4.95p final, making 7.7p, a 10 per cent rise.

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	1,700	CU	271	Lucas	1,337	Royal Ins	1,053
Alld-Lyons	1,594	Courtaulds	520	M&S	4,400	Sainsbury	3,716
Anglian	438	Enterprise	454	Maxwell Cm	197	Scot & N	2,298
ASDA	5,993	Eurotunnel	95	MEPC	379	Sears	1,952
AB Foods	97	Fisons	2,074	Midland	1,392	Severn Trnt	995
Argyll	1,881	Gen Acc	474	Natl Power	6,200	Shell	4,990
BAA	1,457	GEC	4,639	Nat West	4,262	Smith & N	2,583
BET	2,269	Glaxo	1,020	N W Water	570	SK Beech	1,363
BTR	2,733	Grand Met	1,800	P&O	977	Sun Allnce	745
BAT	1,230	GUS 'A'	488	Pearson	507	Tarmac	9,501
Barclays	2,999	GRE	1,098	Pilkington	2,997	Tate Lyle	1,982
Bass	872	Guinness	1,319	PowerGen	5,200	TSB	1,529
BICC	388	Hamm 'A'	505	Prudential	4,491	Tesco	2,364
Bk Scotlnd	104	Hanson	5,304	Racal	5,054	Thames Wtr	547
Blue Circle	1,345	H & C	388	Rk Hovis	434	Thorn EMI	308
BOC	582	Hawker	172	Rank	755	Trafalgar	2,333
Boots	1,965	Hillsdown	359	R&C	26	THF	946
Br Aero	688	ICI	1,541	Redland	851	Ultramar	1,507
Br Airways	3,409	Kingfisher	1,134	Reed	92	Unilever	585
Br Gas	4,900	Lasmo	673	Reuters	192	United Bis	417
Br Petrol	5,097	Ladbroke	785	RMC Gp	281	Wellcome	470
Br Steel	3,143	Land Sec	752	RTZ	738	Whitbrd	1,319
Br Telecm	3,213	L&G	449	R-Royce	5,900	Wig Teape	877
C&W	587	Lloyds	2,408	Rothmn 'B'	12	Williams	381
Cadbury	1,864	Lonrho	2,858	Royal Bank	540	Willis Cor	886

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Aberdeen Tst	59 +1
Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	122 +1
Alliance Res	43
Brabant Res (155p)	134
CMW Group (30p)	71 +3
Castle Cairn (50p)	39
Drayton Blue Chip	102
EFM Java Tst (50p)	46
East German Inv	114
Edos (100p)	44
Etonbrook	67
Europe Energy	14
Faber Prest (175p)	152 +6
Highcroft Inv	165
Invergordon (135p)	156 −1
Levercrest (108p)	84
MMEC	3½
MMI (20p)	24
Malaysia Capital	27⅛
Midland Radio	93 +2
Proteus Intl (84p)	118
Seton Healthcare	176
Smaller IT	78
Stand Platform (225p)	170
Trio Inv Tst	42
Utd Uniform	88
Unichem (100p)	161 +1
Wig Tpe App	227 +4

● *See main prices page for Electricity shares*

RIGHTS ISSUES

AMEC N/P	17
De Morgan N/P	2 −2
EIS Group N/P	61
Ferrum N/P	4
Higgs & Hill N/P	10 −4
Microvitec N/P	½
Morgan Crucible N/P	8 +1
Ocean N/P	35 +4
Owners Abroad N/P	24 −1
Smith (David) N/P	55 +5

(Issue price in brackets).

MAJOR INDICES

New York:
Dow Jones .... 2931.93 (+4.21)*
S&P Composite .... 381.99 (+1.04)*
Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .. 26491.57 (+254.56)
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 3569.64 (−12.85)
FT-SE Euro 100 ...... 1122.04 (+9.91)
Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 95.4 (+1.3)
Sydney: AO .... 1507.5 (−5.4)
Frankfurt: DAX ..... 1597.05 (+25.14)
Brussels:
General .... 5859.08 (−8.77)
Paris: CAC .... 480.49 (+1.80)
Zurich: SKA Gen .... 554.8 (+4.8)
London:
FT.—A All-Share .... 1212.65 (+5.21)
FT.— "500" .... 1338.16 (+5.38)
FT. Gold Mines .... 143.5 (+1.0)
FT. Fixed interest .... 94.26 (−0.08)
FT. Govt Secs .... 84.90 (+0.06)
Bargains 26957
SEAQ Volume 520.6m
USM (Datastream) .... 136.72 (+0.06)

*Denotes latest trading price

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
April 22	May 3	July 25	August 5

Call options were taken out on: 23/4/91 Business Technology, Cannon Street Invst, Davy Corp, Doctus, Kwik-Fit Hldgs, Oliver Res, Pittencreiff, Premier Cons Oil, Rosehaugh.

Puts: Chillington Corp, Manweb PP, Thorntons.

WALL STREET

	Apr 23 midday	Apr 22 close		Apr 23 midday	Apr 22 close		Apr 23 midday	Apr 22 close
Abbott Lab	51%	51%	Enron	58%	57%	Oryx Enrgy	34%	34%
Astra Life	47%	47%	Entergy	24%	23%	Pac Ent	35	34%
Ahmanson	18%	18%	Ethyl	30%	30	Pac Gas Elec	25	26%
Air Prods	63%	65%	Exxon	60%	60%	Pac Telesis	41%	41%
Albertsons	48%	48%	Fed NMA	48%	48%	Paccar	39%	39%
Alcan Al	21%	21%	Fedrl Exprs	35%	35%	Pacificorp	21%	21%
Alco Stand	29%	29%	Flt Norstar	21%	17%	Pall	35%	36%
Allied Signal	29%	29%	Fluor	48%	48%	Paramount	38%	39%
Alumin CA	67%	67	FMC	40%	40%	Parker-Hanfn	28%	28%
Am Brands	43%	42%	Ford Motor	33	32%	Penney	50%	49%
Am Cyanmd	58%	57%	FPL	30	30	Pennzoil	74	73%
Am EPC	29%	29%	Fst Chicago	24%	24	Pepsico	32%	32%
Am General	39%	39%	Fst Intrsta	35%	35%	Pfizer	55%	55%
Am Home	60%	60%	Fst Union	20%	20%	Philips Pet	29%	29%
Am Intl	96%	98%	Gannett	43%	43	Philips Elec	20%	20%
Am Medical	8%	8%	Gen Cinema	23	23%	Philip Morris	67%	67%
Am Stores	57%	69%	Gen Elec	72%	73%	Phelps Dodge	68	68%
Amax	25%	25%	Gen Mills	57%	57%	Pitney Bow	63%	54%
Amer Hess	52%	51%	Gen Motors	37%	37%	Placr Dome	13%	13%
Ameritech	64%	65%	Gen RE	95%	96%	PNC Fncl	34%	33%
Amex	26%	27%	Gen Signal	45%	45%	Pnhdle Estn	13%	13%
Amoco	54%	54	Genentech	28%	28	Polaroid	24%	24%
AMP	53	53%	Genuine Pts	39	38%	PPG Inds	47%	47%
AMR	63	61%	Georgia-Pac	45%	45%	Prctr Gmble	84%	85%
Anheuser-B	51%	52%	Gillette	71%	71%	Price	54%	54
Apple Comp	62	61%	Goodrich	37%	38%	Primerica	29%	29%
Archer-Dan	23%	22%	Goodyear	21%	21%	Pub Service	26%	26%
Arkla	18%	18%	Grace	30	29%	Quaker Oats	56%	56%
Armstrong	27%	27%	Greyhound	34	34%	Ralston Pur	54%	55%
Asarco	25%	25%	Gt Atlantic	52%	51%	Raychem	25%	25
Ashland Oil	34%	34%	Gt Western	17%	17%	Raytheon	78	78%
AT&T	36%	36%	GTE	31%	31%	Reebok	25	24%
Atlan Richfld	131%	130%	Halliburtn	44	44%	Roadway	49%	49%
Auto DP	71	70%	Heinz	38%	38	Rockwell	28	27%
Avery Intl	24%	24%	Hercules	33%	33%	Rohm Haas	38%	39%
Avon Prod	44%	43%	Hershey Fd	40%	40%	Royal Dutch	80%	79%
Baltimore	29%	28%	Hewlett Pkd	53	52%	Rubbermaid	51%	50%
Banc One	35%	36%	Hilton Htl	41%	41%	Rynlds Mtl	59%	59
Bankamerica	38%	37%	Home Depot	57%	57%	Safeco	39%	40
Bard	27	27%	Homestake	14%	14%	Salomon	33	31%
Barnett Bk	27%	26%	Honeywell	60%	62	Sant Fe Pac	8%	8%
Bausch Lmb	81%	82%	Houston Ind	38%	38%	Sara Lee	39%	39%
Baxter Intl	35%	35%	Hsehld Intl	47%	47	Schacorp	38%	38%
Bec Dickn	75%	76	Humana	51%	61%	Schlumbgr	62%	62
Bell Atlan	48%	48%	IBM	108%	108%	Schrg-Plgh	47%	47%
Bellsouth	52%	52%	IFF	82%	82%	Scott Papr	43	42
Bkr Hughes	28%	28%	Illinois TW	55%	55%	Seagram	97%	96%
Black Decker	13%	13%	Inco	35	34%	Sears Rbk	37%	37%
Block	51%	51%	Ingsol-Rand	48%	48%	Secrty Pac	25%	25%
Bnkrs Tst NY	47%	49	Inland Steel	20%	20%	Sherwn-Wlms	23%	23%
Boeing	48%	46%	Intel	53%	53%	Skyline	17%	17%
Boise Casc	25%	25%	Intl Paper	62%	62%	Snap-on Tls	30%	31
Borden	37	37	ITT	58%	59	Southern	27%	27%
Brist-Myer	78%	78%	James River	25%	25%	St Paul	71%	70%
Browng-Fer	28%	28	Johnsn Jhsn	95%	96%	Stanley Wk	38%	37%
Burl Nth	30%	30%	K Mart	40%	40%	Stone Cntr	18%	17%
CAI	8%	8%	Kellogg	93%	94%	Sun Co	34%	34%
Campbell Sp	83%	83%	Kerr-McGee	44%	44%	Suntst Bk	30%	30%
Cap Cities	464	461%	Kimbly-Clrk	91	91%	Super Valu	27%	27%
Capital HC	50%	51	Knght-Riddr	54%	53%	SW Bell	53%	53%
Carolina	47%	47%	Lilly	79%	78%	Syntex	41%	41%
Caterpillar	48%	49	Limited	28%	28%	Sysco	37%	37
CBS	163%	161	Lin Brdcstg	73%	72%	Tandem	18%	18
Central SW	46%	46%	Lincln Nat	55	54%	Tandy	34%	35%
Champion	28%	29%	Litton Ind	86%	86%	Tele-comm	18%	15%
Chase Man	18%	18%	Lockheed	42%	42	Teledyne	19%	19%
Chem Bnkg	20%	20%	Louis-Pac	34%	34%	Temple-In	40	41
Chevron	78	77%	Manu Hano	27%	27%	Tenneco	43%	42%
Chrysler	13%	13%	Marriott	18%	18	Texaco	67%	66%
Chubb	68%	67%	Marsh Mclen	80%	82%	Texas Inst	42%	42%
Cigna	54%	55%	Martin Mar	55%	55	Texas Util	38%	38%
Citicorp	15%	15%	Masco	23%	23%	Textron	30%	31%
Clbrne Liz	48%	48%	May Dept	53%	53%	Time Wrnr	112%	111%
Clorox	39%	39%	Maytag	14	13%	Times Mirr	30%	30%
Cmwlth Edis	38	38%	McDnl Doug	49%	50%	Timken	24%	24
CNA Find	86%	85%	McDonalds	35	35	Torchmark	54%	55
Coastal	33%	34%	McGraw-Hill	59%	59%	Toys R Us	29%	29%
Coca-Cola	53%	54	MCI Com	29%	29%	Transam	34%	35%
Colgate-Pal	81%	81%	Mead	31	30%	Travelers	24%	24%
Columb Gas	39%	39%	Medtronic	115%	114	Tribune	46	45%
Compaq	61%	60%	Mellon Bk	30%	30%	TRW	39%	39%
Conagra	44%	45	Melville	51%	52%	Tyco Lab	48%	48%
Cons Edis	24%	24%	Merck	109%	109%	UAL	157%	155%
Cons NG	40%	40%	Merll Lynch	39%	39%	Un Camp	43	42%
Cons Rail	51	51	MMM	87%	87%	Un Carbide	18%	18%
Cooper Ind	50%	50%	Mobil	68%	67%	Un Pacific	81%	81%
Corning	60%	60%	Monsanto	62%	61%	Unilever	84%	83%
CPC Intl	84%	84%	Moore	25	24%	Unisys	4%	4%
Crown Cork	73%	73%	Morgan	52	51%	Unocal	27%	27%
CSX	41%	41	Motorola	64	63%	Upjohn	44%	45%
Dana	30%	30%	Nat Medical	49%	48%	US West	38%	37%
Dayton-Hud	75%	75%	Nat Semi	8	7%	Usair Gp	18%	18%
Deere	49%	49%	Nat Service	26	25%	USF&G	11%	11%
Delta Air	69%	69%	Navistar	3%	3%	US Life	38%	39%
Deluxe	39%	39	NCNB	36%	37	UST	45%	45
Detroit Ed	28%	28%	NCR	101%	102	USX	32%	32%
Digital Eq	70%	70%	NED Bncp	39%	39%	Utd Tech	44%	44%
Dillard	115	114%	Newmnt Min	35%	35%	Utd Telcm	25%	25%
Disney	116%	117	Niagr Mhwk	14%	14%	VF	28%	27%
Dominion	47%	46%	Nike	47%	48%	Wal-Mart	42%	42%
Donnelley	48%	45%	NL Indstrs	14%	14%	Waste Mgmt	39%	40
Dover	40%	40%	Nordstorm	36%	37%	Wells Fargo	82%	82%
Dow Chem	48%	49%	Norflk Sthn	47%	48%	Westg Elec	28%	28%
Dow Jones	27%	28	Norwest	26%	27	Weyerhsr	24%	24%
Dresser Ind	24%	24%	Nthn St Pwr	33%	33%	Whirlpool	30%	28%
Du Pont	40%	39%	Nthn Telcm	33%	32%	Whitman	13%	13%
Duke Pwr	28%	28%	NY Times	21%	22%	Winn-Dixie	35%	36%
Dun Bradst	47%	47%	Nynex	71%	71%	Woolworth	32%	32%
East Kodak	43	43	Occid Petrl	19%	19%	Wrigley	83%	83%
Eaton	60%	58%	Ohio Ed	18%	18%	Wrner-Lamb	75%	74%
Emerson El	46%	45%	Oracle Sys	10%	10%	Xerox	57%	58%

Strength in bonds lifts Dow

New York

BLUE chips rose in the morning as investors bought shares that had been worst affected during recent selling. Firm bond prices also helped lift shares.

The Dow Jones industrial average was 15.28 points ahead at 2,943.

Analysts said that a sharp drop in durable goods orders last month may renew hopes of a cut in interest rates, boosting confidence in shares.

One analyst said: "I'm looking for a one or two-day rally where we might recover half of what we lost."

The Dow average has lost about 76 points since last Wednesday's record close of 3,004. It fell by nearly 38 points on Monday.

☐ **Tokyo** — The market finished firmer, ending three days of falls. The Nikkei index was up 254.56 points, or 0.97 per cent, at 26,491.57, with 360 million shares changing hands, against 250 million on Monday. The poor performances of the yen and Wall Street overnight were negative factors, but the Nikkei was helped by buying prompted by investor fears that they might have oversold in the last few days.

☐ **Hong Kong** — The Hang Seng index, attempting to close a point or two up after Monday's sharp decline, fell in the last few minutes of light and late selling. Bargain-hunters, buying blue chips at prices cut by Monday's 84.91-point plunge and a 30-point slide just after the opening yesterday, boosted the Hang Seng steadily for much of the day. It ended 12.85 down at 3,569.64. The broader Hong Kong index closed 9.04 down at 2,339.84.

☐ **Frankfurt** — Foreign buying swept shares higher, restoring confidence after Monday's sharp fall. This brought the 1,600 level on the Dax index back within striking distance. The Dax ended 25.14 points, or 1.6 per cent, higher at 1,597.05.

☐ **Sydney** — Australian shares closed lower but relatively firm on strong foreign support for blue chips. The All-Ordinaries index closed at 1,510.5, down just 2.4, despite two consecutive sharp falls on Wall Street.

☐ **Singapore** — Prices closed lower after fluctuating in narrow ranges in thin and lacklustre trading due to an absence of leads from overseas markets. The Straits Times industrial index lost 5.99 to 1,526.09. *(Reuter)*

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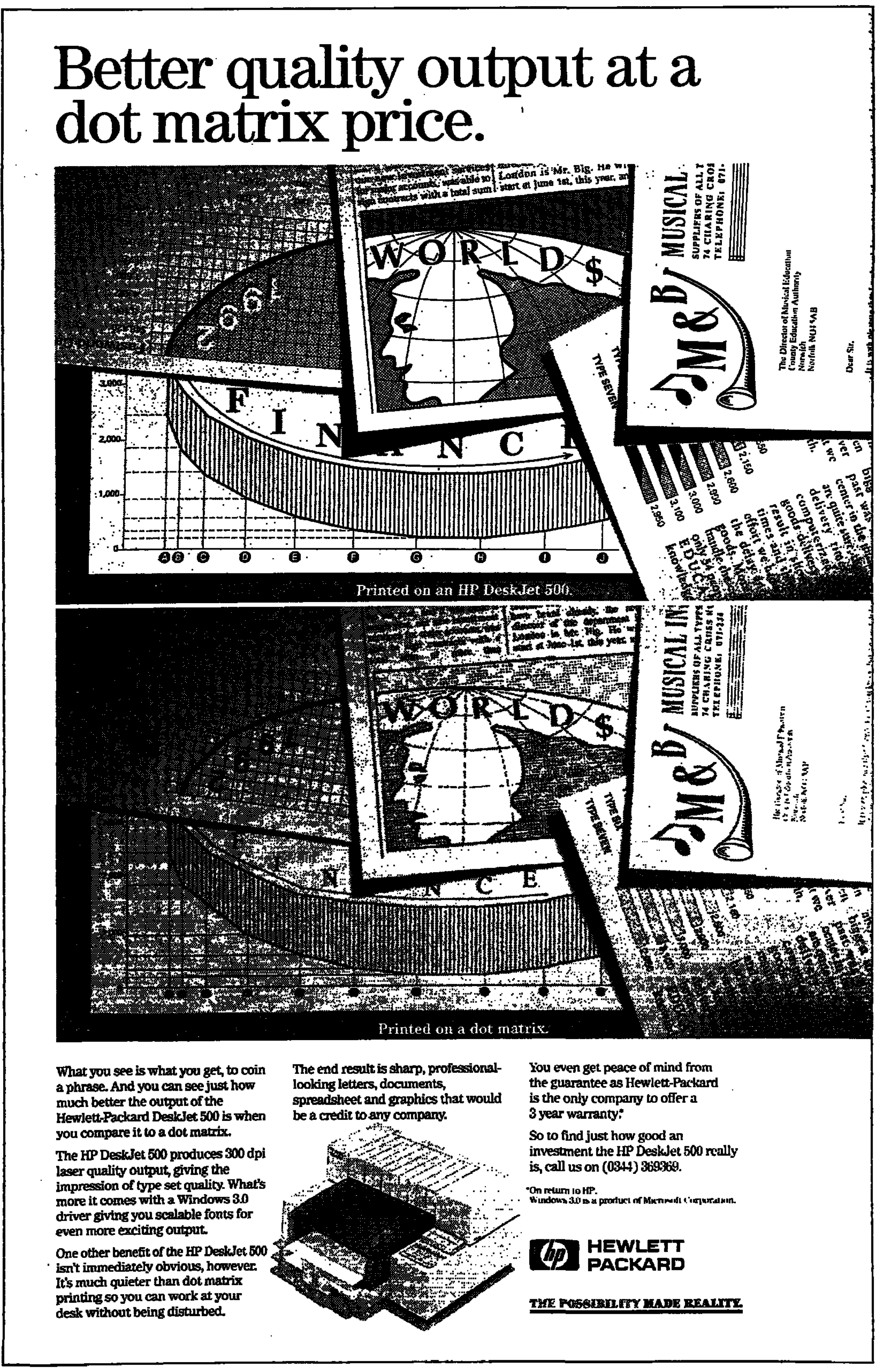
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THE POSSIBILITY MADE REALITY.

After the victory, Kuwait pays the price

Kuwait is free, but the work of rebuilding it has barely begun. **Jamie Dettmer** reports on the visions and divisions

CHRIS HARRIS FRANK SPOONER

Freedom day: (left) resistance fighters fly the flag of victory on an abandoned Iraqi armoured vehicle, but (right) a young boy with his father watches his future burning

The Regency Palace was once the most imposing hotel in Kuwait City. In its restaurants and public rooms, which overlook the bay, foreign and finance ministers, western oil millionaires and company presidents struck their deals.

From a distance, the hotel seems untouched by the devastation of the Gulf war. But once you get closer you realise there will be no guests here for a long time. The outside walls are intact, but they enclose a heap of charred rubble, the result of Iraqi arson.

As with the hotel, so with Kuwait. The emirate that was built from 18th century seafaring, 19th century pearling, early 20th century gold smuggling and late 20th century oil extraction, has had the guts ripped out of it.

In the first few days after liberation, it was the damage to the emirate's infrastructure, buildings and environment that caught the eye. Wherever you went in Kuwait City there was a smell of burning. Scorch marks blackened downtown blocks of flats and offices. Damaged Soviet-made tanks and imported western cars were strewn across roads.

Kuwait is still haemorrhaging its financial lifeblood. Dense black smoke from oilfield fires fills the air. It is hard to tell day from night in the town of Ahmadi, which is in the middle of the al-Maqwa oilfield. Kuwait City is frequently affected by the oil fire cloud. When it rains the water droplets are black.

Eighteen oil well fires have been put out, but nearly 600 are still gushing flames and smoke. The Kuwaiti government and the fire fighting companies, led by Red Adair, have been arguing in the last few days about the pace of extinguishing the flames. The American companies believe it could take up to two years to put out all the oil fires. The government insists that this should be done within seven months, and has appealed for help from other countries.

Most of the damage inflicted on the city and the oilfields came in the last few days and hours of the occupation, in a wave of spiteful vengeance and vandalism by the Iraqis.

But is the damage inflicted on the emirate of a material kind only? Some opposition politicians, pressing for democratic reform, are worried that Iraq may have dealt a more spiritual blow, and claim the spirit of Saddam Hussein will continue to haunt the emirate and linger in the hearts of Kuwaitis. They argue that the brutal and violent political culture of Iraq may have spawned adherents in Kuwait.

In recent weeks, there has been a breakdown in law and order. It is possible there have been more rapes of foreign women — Filipinos, Indians and Sri Lankans — in Kuwait since the liberation than during the Iraqi occupation. In residential districts in the city, well away from international businessmen in downtown hotels, night-time gun battles involving Kuwaitis, Palestinians and Shia Muslims are common.

Many of the 200,000 or so Palestinians who did not flee from the Iraqis also believe the nature of the emirate has changed. Within hours of the liberation, Palestinians, many of whom had been born in Kuwait, were picked up at random off the streets and at the dozens of vehicle checkpoints that sprouted throughout the city. In the next weeks thousands of Palestinians were seized, beaten up and tortured.

Members of the ruling al-Sabah family are allegedly implicated in some of the violence against Palestinians. A new, disturbing phase in what at times appears an institutional campaign against the Palestinians came earlier this month when seven prominent Palestinians were murdered by what many diplomats here describe as "death squads". No arrests have yet been made.

Last week, secret government figures on dead, detained and missing Palestinians were leaked to *The Times*. The figure suggested that more than 2,000 Palestinian men and 28 women were still in detention by mid-April, 172 men had been killed and 300 were missing. According to international human rights agencies, it is likely that the figures for the dead and missing are underestimates.

The Kuwaitis say that Palestinians collaborated with the Iraqis. Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation, backed Saddam Hussein. They claim Palestinians did terrible things during the occupation, raping Kuwaiti girls, betraying resistance members and Kuwaiti soldiers.

'Rubbish piles up in front of middle-class homes because there is no longer a servant to burn it'

There is much evidence that most Palestinians in Kuwait were against the Iraqis, some joined resistance groups, some helped distribute much-needed supplies and money. Many, like most Kuwaitis, kept their heads down.

The hatred harboured by Kuwaitis for Palestinians now threatens the basis of a society that was built on Arabic and non-Arabic immigrant labour. Palestinians first came in large numbers to Kuwait in 1948. They have been coming ever since, from Israel, Lebanon and Jordan, escaping violence, hoping for wealth or at least security. They were not the first foreigners to appear in large numbers; Indians and Pakistanis came before them. Filipinos are the latest nationals to find work in the emirate.

The foreigners have not been allowed to play a part in the political processes of the emirate, nor do they qualify for full access to what was once the most complete welfare system in the world. A few have been allowed, after decades of service, to take out Kuwaiti citizenship.

The difficulty has come with the Palestinians and other Arabic migrants, who have slowly swamped Kuwait and given birth in the emirate to sons and daughters who look upon the country as their home. In the past few years, Kuwait's ruling al-Sabah family has become anxious that non-Kuwaiti Arabs would slowly make the country their own and change it.

Ministers now talk openly of wanting to kick out all Palestinians, and they are keen to cut the population significantly. There is talk of reducing it from the pre-invasion figure of more than two million to perhaps 1.2 million. What seems certain is that the 200,000 Palestinians who left the emirate during the occupation will not be allowed to return.

Wiser heads in government are aware that the other 200,000 Palestinians who did not flee from the emirate during the occupation will be needed to help restore the economy. A mass expulsion is unlikely, therefore. But it seems clear that with a reduction in population employment patterns will be restructured. Plans are already afoot to bring in new labour from the Indian subcontinent on short-term contracts and to reduce public sector employment by up to half.

The aim is a more even balance of foreign workers and Kuwaitis in public sector jobs. A significant reduction in population would also have the knock-on effect of cutting down on the services and buildings that have to be restored.

Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah, the emir, and Sheikh Saad al-Sabah, the crown prince, have promised the return of a formal parliamentary democracy, but how tolerant will this new Kuwait be with its own citizens? Some liberal opposition politicians, such as Hamad al-Joual, worry that the intolerance shown towards non-Kuwaitis could be turned on Kuwaiti dissidents.

He has had recent experience of political violence. Within a few days of liberation, a gunman shot him in front of his three-year-old daughter. Now paralysed from the waist down, he expresses the dangers of allowing military irregulars to run around with immunity.

Kuwait City has taken few steps through its own efforts to start the process of rebuilding. The most active people in Kuwait are British and American engineers, who have collected well over a million pieces of unexploded ordnance and worked hard to restore power and water supplies.

Many Kuwaitis have refrained from getting their hands dirty. Rubbish piles up in front of middle-class homes because there is no longer a Filipino servant to burn it. At times it appears as though there is no government. No minister has got to grips with the breakdown of law and order. Rebuilding plans are in chaos, with one ministry not knowing what the other is doing. The al-Sabah family is split about how far democratic reform should go.

Opposition groups are long on chat, but short on initiative. There is growing tension between those Kuwaitis who remained during the occupation and those who chose exile, with the former more keen on the emirate changing.

Since liberation more Kuwaitis have left than have returned. The failure of Kuwaitis to come back in large numbers means that the private sector has not even started the process of rebuilding itself. One or two wealthy businessmen are considering not involving themselves in reconstructing Kuwait, but concentrating on their investments and property abroad.

Just 18 days after this photograph first appeared, DHL was delivering again to Kuwait...

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1991
FREEDOM
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STEWART MARK

Family firm: despite a government reshuffle, the crown prince, Sheikh Saad al-Abdallah al-Sabah (above) remains in post as prime minster

Veneer on family cabinet

The rejigged government remains dominated by the al-Sabahs. Can it survive? Jamie Dettmer asks

Abdul Aziz Sultan, chairman of the Gulf Bank, is one of the new breed of independent political figures in Kuwait to emerge from the trauma of the Iraqi invasion and occupation. Educated in the United States, he has adopted as much as possible western manners and ideas, and is eager to see democracy revived and widened.

He is one of hundreds of world-travelled professionals who believe that Kuwait can grow into full statehood only if the ruling al-Sabah family takes a back seat. Like many middle-class Kuwaitis, he became politicised by living through the Iraqi occupation. Competence is his touchstone, and the main thrust of his criticism of Kuwait's rulers is that the *al-Sabahs have been incompetent*, particularly in exploiting the full economic potential of the emirate.

"The main dilemma is: do the al-Sabahs and other ruling families in the Gulf still look upon the country as their personal property?" he says.

Two months after the liberation of Kuwait the central political question *remains: will the al-Sabah family* relax its grip on power and give in gracefully to demands for the revival of democracy?

The appointment of a new government earlier this week had all the makings of a company boardroom reshuffle rather than the beginnings of a novel departure. The chairman and chief executive, the emir, Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmed al-Sabah, and the crown prince, Sheikh Saad al-Abdallah al-Sabah, remained in place. Two senior executives were thrown to the wolves in an effort to divert the pack.

The dropping of Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed al-Sabah, the third most senior member of the family, from his *dual post of deputy prime minister* and foreign secretary, and the removal of Ali al-Abdallah al-Sabah as finance minister, were the only signs that the ruling family wish to go some way to placate the growing demands for political change.

Two new al-Sabahs were included in the cabinet to bring the family *strength up to five, only two short of* the number in the previous cabinet.

Opposition demands for a government of national salvation went unheeded. Only one or two of the seven political factions that form the mainstream of the opposition were approached to see if they could be enticed into low-ranking positions in government. The new cabinet has no opposition figure and no resistance leader, not even a prominent "insider", one of those who remained in Kuwait during the occupation.

Few doubt that elections, promised by the emir, will take place eventually and that the national assembly, suspended *in 1986, will be revived.* Opposition worries centre on when the poll will be called and whether the al-Sabah family will agree to the widening of the franchise to bring in women, let alone naturalised Kuwaiti citizens.

The other big question is whether the al-Sabahs will take a back seat *even* when the assembly has been revived. The assembly cannot, for example, sack a minister. It can call for a minister's dismissal, but the emir will do so only if the crown prince recommends it. If the assembly becomes annoying, will the al-Sabahs suspend it again? In 1986 the assembly was suspended partly because of a wave of Iranian-inspired Shia Muslim activity which nearly left the emir dead and oil production halted. The other, and possibly main, reason was that politicians were closing in on allegedly al-Sabah links to a devastat*ing and embarrassing collapse of the souk-al-manakh*, the unofficial stock exchange. How would the al-Sabahs act towards the assembly if the family's good name was in danger?

Generally, Kuwaitis who left the emirate during the occupation have less strong feelings about change than those who remained. The insiders *who stayed show signs of wanting to* do things for themselves.

Before the August invasion, Kuwaitis on the whole seemed content to enjoy the fruits the oil wealth had bestowed on the emirate without participating politically. For the Kuwaiti-born, life was easy — house, job and a complete welfare system. Do *the* Kuwaitis just want to go back to that? Insiders say no, but those who did not experience the occupation, seem to desire a return to the easy life.

Scars of war will take years to heal

The nation has been ravaged by warfare, looting and vandalism

During the last days of the occupation of Kuwait, Iraqi soldiers began a campaign of sabotage designed to cripple civilian infrastructure and to wreck virtually every large public and private building in the country. The speed of the ground war stopped them completing the job, but before the order to retreat was given buildings were set alight and power stations, desalination plants and telecommunications centres were disabled.

The sabotage came after seven months of systematic looting in which goods of every conceivable nature were taken to Iraq. Offices and shops were emptied, universities and libraries stripped.

Today, most of the city has electricity, and water is intermittently available. But the reconstruction operation appears to be moving excruciatingly slowly. Many in Kuwait are asking how it is to be achieved with ministries and companies in some cases struggling to operate with a tenth of their original staff.

Inside Kuwait City, where most of the pre-war population lived, structural damage appears slight. But behind intact exteriors is evidence of looting and vandalism which will take years to remedy.

British power and water companies have arrived in Kuwait to press Dr Hamound al-Rogba, the former minister for electricity and water, and Ahmed al-Adsani, his successor, for reconstruction work.

Dr 'al-Rogba has said that *damaged* power *plants* at Shuwaikh and Shuaibah on the Gulf coast will probably be scrapped. Before the war, Kuwait was capable of producing 50 per cent more power than the national demand and, if plans to reduce the population to 1.2 million are *carried through*, the *plants* will not be needed.

Engineers from British Electricity International, National Power's overseas division, are now running power stations at Doha and Az Zour, which received light bomb and sabotage damage. The departure of Palestinians and Jordanians had left a shortage of skilled labour and middle management and it was BEI staff, aided by the Royal Engineers, who were responsible for getting power back to Kuwait.

Other work is needed to rebuild petrochemical plants near Mina Abdullah, fuel storage tanks and control rooms at Doha industrial complex, and port facilities at Shuwaikh. When engineers from the British army arrived at the huge Doha power station on March 1 they found 17 unexploded charges, but of more concern were boxes of unprimed 99-day time-delay charges discovered in Shuaibah docks.

At the freshwater pumping station at Mina Abdullah, further south, preparations to blow up a reservoir dam were found. This pumping station will be one of the biggest rebuilding tasks. It controlled much of Kuwait City's water supply. Members of Kuwait's resistance say allied intelligence gatherers mistakenly understood from resistance reports that it was an important base for the Iraqi army. It took several direct hits from bombs.

Despite detailed checks by military explosives experts, the volume of unexploded ordnance in Kuwait will claim lives for years to come. Additionally, the country's entire road network will need resurfacing after being worn down by tank traffic, and some 85 electricity substations will have to be demolished.

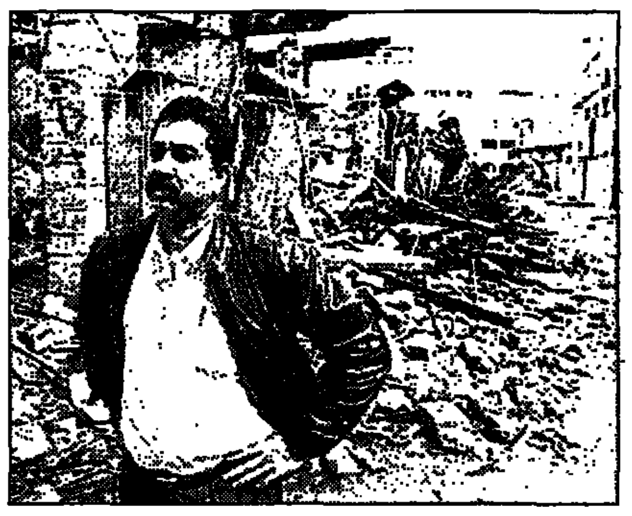
Damage assessment teams from the US Corps of Engineers have assessed more than 160 government buildings. They say half of these were vandalised, 20 per cent escaped with light damage and another 30 per cent were scarred by fire and smoke.

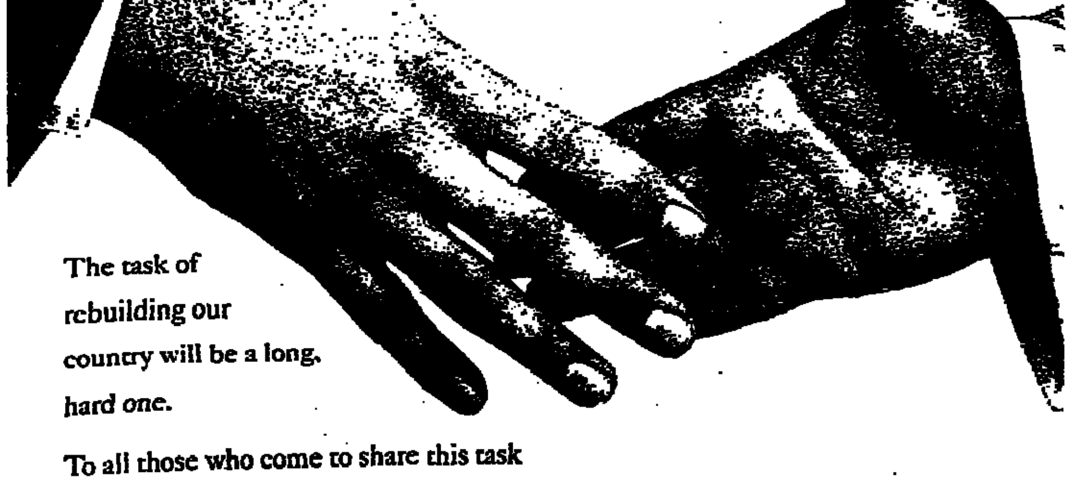
Those worst hit include the Bayan palace, a conference centre, the national assembly building and the ministry of planning. Among privately owned buildings damaged and looted are the crown prince's palace, the emir's Dasman palace, two museums, the university, shopping centres and the Marmott, Sheraton and Meridian hotels.

Private houses considered to be strategically positioned were converted into gun emplacements. And on the sea front miles of trenches built from bricks ripped from pavements will have to be removed, as will thousands of metal spikes, mines and rolls of razor-edged wire.

RICHARD WATSON

● *The author writes for* New Civil Engineer. *A special supplement*, Reconstructing Kuwait, *price £20, will be published jointly by* New Builder *and* New Civil Engineer *tomorrow.*


Mohammad Carsym at his destroyed jewellery shop



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International rescuers fight to stop home fires burning

Kuwait is likely to lose 2 per cent of its oil-producing capacity in the fight to cap the wells, Shakib Otaqui says

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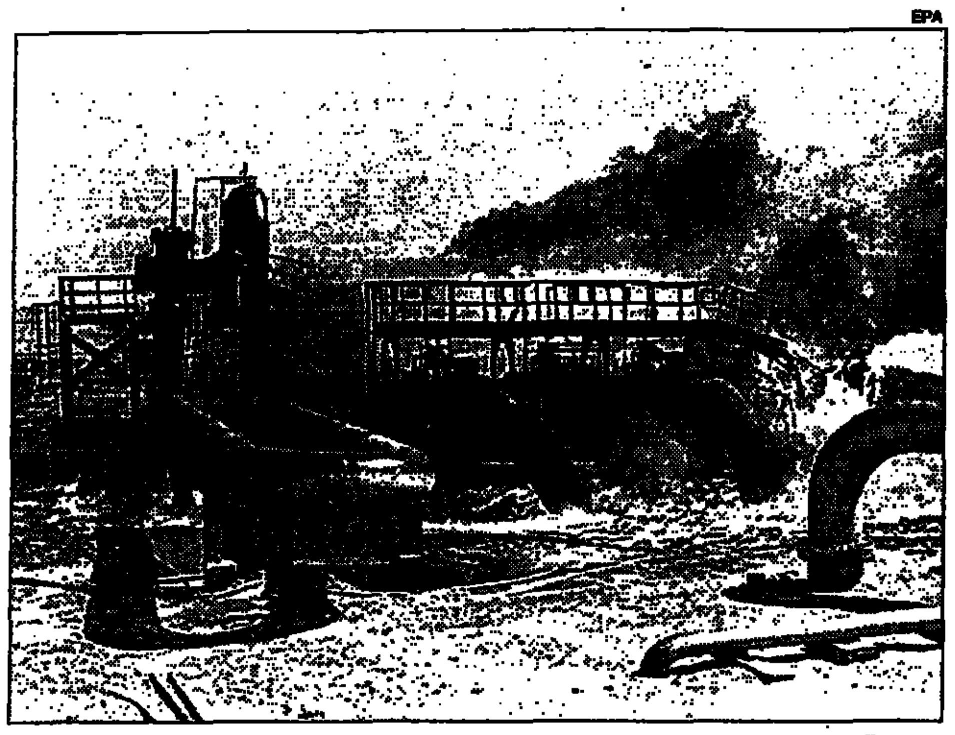


Slow progress: the task of extinguishing the 600 oil installation fires is long and difficult

The fires now raging in Kuwait's oil fields are consuming about six million barrels a day (b/d) of the country's oil reserves. This is double the peak production of three million b/d in 1979 and four times output on the eve of the Iraqi invasion last year.

Even on the most pessimistic estimates of the time needed to extinguish the fires, only 2-3 per cent of Kuwait's proven reserves of about 100 billion barrels will be consumed by the fires. However, the uncontrolled flow of oil from burning or uncapped wells now looks likely to damage the reservoirs. This may reduce recoverable reserves, or at least significantly raise the cost of oil production; it could do both.

Progress in extinguishing the fires has been slow, hampered by lack of water and by bureaucratic delays in getting necessary heavy equipment over the Saudi-Kuwait border. The three American and one Canadian companies so far engaged to fight the fires are fully stretched — never before have they had to fight 600 or more well fires.

By mid-April, only two burning wells had been extinguished, and another 23 gushing but non-burning wells capped. Rashid al-Amiri, the former oil minister, has expressed impatience at the slow progress of the work, which was then estimated to need 18 to 24 months to complete. In a press conference notable for alternate praise and blame for the North American companies already on the spot, he said that the government hoped to cut this period to seven months by engaging fire-fighting experts from elsewhere in the world.

This plan may be over-optimistic, since it is estimated that about 80 per cent of the world's fire-fighting capacity is already engaged in Kuwait. The teams from China, France, Germany and Iran with whom Mr al-Amiri said negotiations are under way will hardly make a significant addition to the effort.

The European commission has approved a £11.6 million package to help Kuwait cope with "Iraq's environmental crimes". Of that, £7.6 million will go to help European companies set up fire-fighting operations in Kuwait. Elf Aquitaine of France, Agip of Italy and Petrofina of Belgium should be operating in Kuwait soon, according to Carlo Ripa di Meana, the European Community's environment commissioner.

The American fire-fighters have strongly objected to these "interlopers", and were said to have threatened at one point to stop work if contracts were awarded to other companies. This fit of pique will probably pass, especially as the pace steps up once preparatory work is complete.

Already, a pipeline formerly used to take crude from the Ahmadi field has been converted to bring in sea water, which is pumped into big pits lined with polythene. Offers to convert other pipelines or to build new ones are being studied. Once sufficient water and equipment are available at the fields, progress should improve. Some experts think all the fires could be put out within a year.

But that will not end the problem. Many of the wells will have been so badly damaged that they will need to be replaced. However, the occupying Iraqis destroyed or removed the computer tapes holding data from geophysical surveys of the oilfields. Kuwait has asked specialist companies that carried out the original surveys to scour their records for duplicate data. If these are not found, there will be further delays because of the need to carry out new surveys.

Beyond the oil wells, 18 of Kuwait's 23 oil-gathering centres, and much of its pipeline and export facilities, will have to be repaired or replaced, though this can be done to some extent in parallel with the fire-fighting. Meanwhile, the priority is to restore sufficient production to meet domestic needs to avoid the drain on foreign exchange reserves from oil-product imports.

Domestic consumption before the war ranged from 100,000 to 150,000 b/d, depending on the season. The much smaller population now in Kuwait, and the almost total absence of business activity, means that local demand could be met by crude output of only 50,000-70,000 b/d, and this should be available within a month or two.

Exports from Kuwait and Iraq have not been seriously missed because the world oil market is awash. But petroleum-product markets have missed the 700,000 b/d capacity of Kuwait's ultra-modern refineries. Damage to these now appears less serious than first thought, and reports during the occupation that the Iraqis had completely dismantled one refinery and taken the parts to Iraq appear unfounded. It is likely that refining capacity will reach close to pre-crisis levels by the time full crude production is resumed some time next year.

There are few signs that Kuwait will significantly change its pre-crisis oil strategy once the sector is restored to normal. Reports of plans to sell off the European downstream operations (including refining, marketing and distribution) remain unconfirmed and unlikely.

£30 billion bill to clean up

KUWAIT may have the financial resources to pay for rebuilding the country, but the real problem is cash flow: how to finance the reconstruction programme and routine government expenditure until oil exports return to pre-war levels *(Shakib Otaqui writes).*

The initial estimates that rebuilding would cost £60 billion or more now look greatly exaggerated, as much of the damage has been found to be superficial. A more sensible estimate would be £23 billion to £30 billion.

This could be further reduced by political decisions. Several ministers have been quoted as saying that the government intends to control the number of expatriate workers, reducing the population to 1.2 million, compared with the two million at the time of the Iraqi invasion. There has also been talk of control over allowing foreign workers to bring in families, giving Kuwaitis a bigger role.

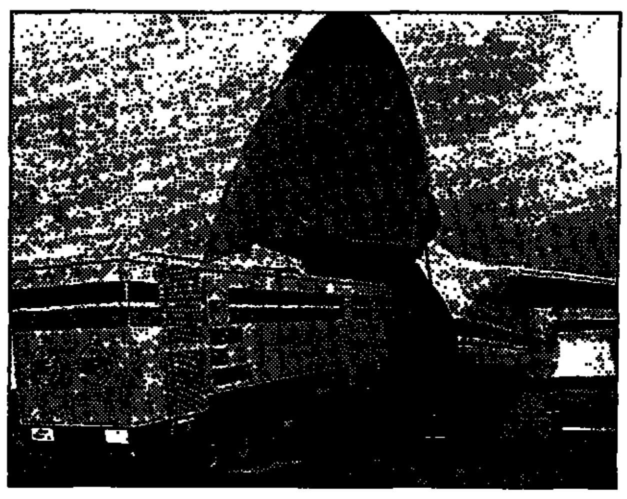
The government has said that it does not intend to liquidate assets in the West to a major extent.

Such a move would cause havoc in the equity and property markets of the countries that helped liberate Kuwait, and also lower the value of Kuwaiti investments.

Kuwait is likely to approach international banks for financing, using its oil reserves, still the world's third or fourth largest, as collateral.

British companies win 22 per cent of contracts

Joint ventures with Arab businesses have been welcomed



GEC has supplied turbines for electricity generation

British companies have won 22 per cent of the contracts issued in the emergency stages of Kuwait's reconstruction. However, they face stiff competition from Americans, French, Italians and others.

The Kuwaiti government and private sector are prepared to take advantage of renewed interest by American companies in the Middle East as a reward for the United States' leading role in the liberation.

Locally-based companies are benefiting from Kuwait's heightened desire to been seen as supportive of other Arab states. Several foreign companies are forming joint ventures with Arab companies.

Wimpey, the British contractor, is well placed, having worked with Mohammad Kharafi, Kuwait's leading building and civil engineering company, and is on the shortlist for refurbishment of the Bayan Palace conference centre.

Competition from German and Japanese companies is more low-key, but these companies are confident that the Kuwaitis' intention to return to original suppliers will help them.

One British company to benefit from this approach is British Electricity International, National Power's overseas subsidiary. The company, which supplied power-station staff before the war, has been able to increase the number of its workers in the country.

AT&T, the American telecommunications giant, moved fast to win the contract to restore the communications network. US TC, the mobile telephone specialist, has ridden on the back of AT&T. Britain's SSL International Satellite, however, has supplied some satellite links. Computers for the communications system and other administrative functions are from Cogitare Consortium Computers, also British.

British companies have scored successes in re-equipping the health sector. London Medical and Shanning Mobile Medical Centres secured contracts before the country was liberated. Taylors International Service Catering is now catering for hospitals.

DHL, the operator of parcel services, moved quickly back into Kuwait after the liberation to resume deliveries.

Most of the work, an estimated £15 billion, will come from capping the burning wells and restoring production. Originally, American companies seemed to have monopolised the fire-fighting, but companies from other countries may now have a chance. A British consortium, of Taylor Woodrow, Amec and Wimpey, is offering fire-fighting expertise from within BP.

Most construction plant and equipment was looted or destroyed by the Iraqis. Again the Americans proved the quickest, and Caterpillar diggers were working in Kuwait days after liberation. However, JCB, the leading British plant suppler, is now pouring in supplies with some success.

British engineering consultants stand to re-establish their influential position in Kuwait. LG Mouchel worked on the road expansion scheme before the war.

J.R. Knowles, the construction cost consultant, has received many requests for information.

The consultants may find work countering the environmental damage caused by the oil fires and the slick in the Gulf. Schlumberger International, of Aberdeen, is working as a subcontractor to American companies testing the damage to reservoirs.

British consultancies, such as Baker & McKenzie, should be well placed to offer legal services because Kuwait's law is derived from Britain's.

ALASTAIR McLELLAN

● *The author writes for* New Builder.

CAMERA PRESS

Victim of Saddam's oil pollution: as many as 20,000 wading birds have been killed

Battle to salvage an ecological disaster

Experts are still assessing pollution in the Gulf, but agree there will be long-term damage

Smoke from burning oil wells, and oil slicks, have been the twin environmental scourges of the Gulf war, and a full evaluation of the damage is not yet available.

"We have never seen a pollution event of this magnitude before," says Richard Small, of the Pacific Sierra Research Corporation, a Californian think-tank, charged with estimating for the Pentagon the amount of smoke being produced by the blazing Kuwaiti oil wells, thought to number more than 500.

Dr Small believes that up to 16,000 tons of soot is produced daily . This is half a million tons a month, to which must be added perhaps another 100,000 tons of smoke from burning storage tanks.

Eventually, it will come down to earth and, according to Dr Small, there will be long-term damage to agriculture, vegetation, drinking water, people and animal populations over the 620-mile extent of the smoke plume, depending on the prevailing winds. The Pentagon is now planning a large-scale environmental experiment to assess the outcome.

One of the main problems, Dr Small says, is how the affected nations, including Saudi Arabia and Iran, are to go about seeking reparation from Iraq for the damage.

"How do you assess lower reproduction rates of grazing herds, or what value do you put on a damaged meadow?" he asks. "We will have to have a study of how nations can react to pollution being transported to them from other countries."

Such legal questions may form part of the Pentagon's study, he says, adding: "One of the great ironies is that, because of the prevailing winds, Iraq, which caused the damage, will suffer the least."

Some American fire-fighters believe it could take two years to control the fires, and the damage is likely to overshadow that to the marine environment.

The amount of oil spilt is less than first announced — the largest slick is thought to be two million barrels rather than 12 — and has not reached Bahrain or the United Arab Emirates, stretching down the Saudi coast only as far as the headland of Abu Ali, north of Jubail. There, a fortuitous combination of tides, wind and coastal topography has prevented further movement. It has backed up in a bay and is being tackled by the clean-up teams.

According to Robin Pellew, the director of the World Conservation Monitoring Centre in Cambridge, which has been watching the environmental situation, the slick has affected about 100 miles of the Saudi coastline, with 30 to 40 miles hit badly. Two bays, Abu Ali and Manefa, have been heavily contaminated with crude oil, he says, and the shrimp fishery they supported, representing about 25 per cent of the Saudi shrimp industry, has been lost.

"That is probably the worst economic damage the slick has caused," Dr Pellew says. "The effect on wildlife has been surprisingly light." No dolphins or dugongs have been reported killed, and perhaps a mere half dozen turtles. The worst effect, he says, has been on wading birds. Perhaps 20,000 have been killed.

Although the pollution of air, land and sea has been calamitous in the Gulf, the global catastrophe predicted before the war was exaggerated. In November, King Husain of Jordan accurately predicted the mass firing of Kuwait's oil wells by the Iraqis, but was less accurate about its consequences.

The smoke cloud would spread for 500 miles, he said, and there would be a massive addition to global warming from the carbon dioxide produced by the fires. In January, several scientists associated with the Green party went even further, saying the smoke cloud would affect the Asian monsoon, on whose rain-bearing properties a million people depend.

Most meteorologists now agree that although weather will be affected locally, the smoke cloud will not affect the world's climate.

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28	BTR	Industrials A-D	
29	Grand Met	Breweries	
30	NFC	Transport	
31	Assoc Fisheries	Foods	
32	News Corp	Newspapers,Pub	
33	Tomkins	Industrials S-Z	
34	BET Ord	Industrials A-D	
35	Ratners Group	Drapery,Stores	
36	Siebe	Industrials S-Z	
37	BAT	Tobaccos	
38	Cable Wireless	Electricals	
39	Nthn Foods	Foods	
40	Marks Spencer	Drapery,Stores	
41	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	
42	Gt Portland	Property	
43	Br Airways	Transport	
44	Utd Newspapers	Newspapers,Pub	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no valid claims for the Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday. The £2,000 will be added to today's competition.

Portfolio
PLATINUM

© Times Newspapers Limited

DAILY DIVIDEND
£4,000
Claims required for +40 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

BREWERIES

1991 High	Low	Company	Price Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
575	480	Allied-Lyons	523	527	-1	23.4	4.5	11.8
1064	857	Bass	955	963 r	+5	43.2	4.5	10.0
175	124	Boddington	180	182 ●	+2	8.8	5.0	10.8
244	173	Bulmer (H P)	227	235	–	10.6	4.6	17.3
142	105	Buckley's Brew	125	132	–	5.3	4.1	12.0
238	135	Devenish (JA)	220	227	-5	7.1	3.2	18.5
81	53	Fosters Brewing Gp	63	65	–	–	–	–
839	623	Grand Met	792	795	+6	27.2	3.4	14.3
359	274	Greenall Whit	340	345	-3	13.3	3.9	13.2
452	374	Greene King	447	457	+1	18.6	3.9	16.1
924	717	Guinness	897	901 ●	-3	25.8	2.8	14.1
980	870½	Hardys & Hansons	950	985	–	44.7	4.7	11.7
279	225	Highland Dist	280	285 ●	-4	6.8	2.5	20.0
167	120	Invergordon Dist	153	158 ●	-1	8.7	4.3	12.9
465	420	Mansfield	442	452	–	16.3	3.4	11.5
218	185	Marston Thompson	215	218	–	5.5	2.5	17.5
400	367	Matthew Clark	390	395	–	18.0	4.6	13.7
303	240	Morland	275	305	+12	8.8	3.0	14.3
555	538	SA Breweries	535	545	–	–	–	–
409	338	Scot & New	370	373	–	18.2	4.9	12.4
258	174	Vaux Group	233	236	–	11.7	6.0	12.2
510	409	Whitbread 'A'	489	492	+1	20.4	4.2	13.7
13½	13½	Do 'B'	13	13¼	–	20.4	1.5	37.2
505	389	Wolverhampton & D	498	502	–	12.4	2.5	14.1
447	389	Young 'A'	410	420	–	16.0	3.9	18.7

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E-K

L-R

S-Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 28

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

TRANSPORT

WATER

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

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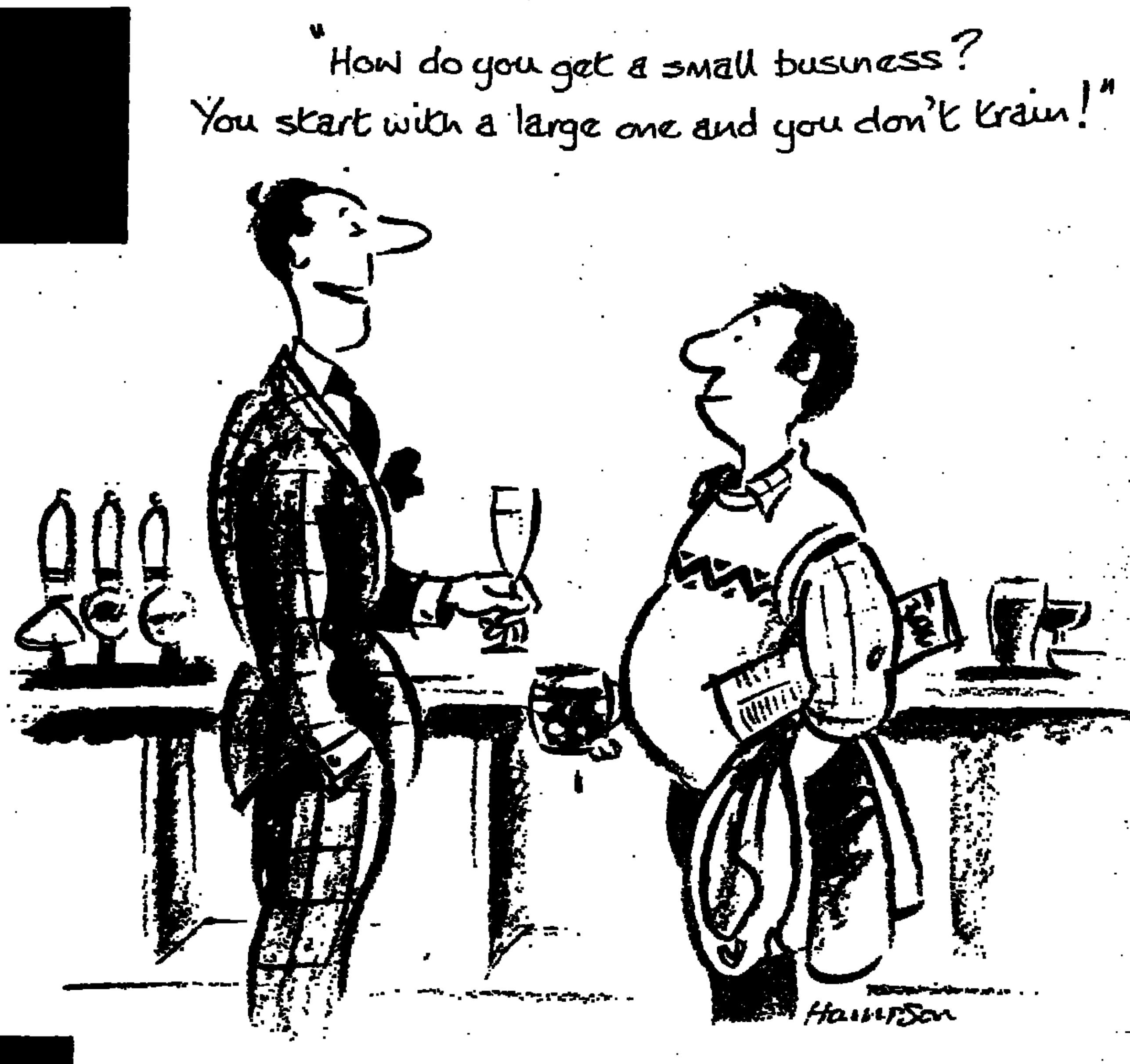
CENTURY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Harrison

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هكذا عن الأصل

Japanese computer firm hopes to tighten grip in Europe

NEC prepares to buy into Bull

From A Correspondent

NEC Corp, of Japan, is considering taking a stake in Groupe Bull, the French state-owned computer maker.

NEC said Bull had asked it to acquire a stake and the matter was now under negotiation. The Japanese firm has been supplying mainframe computers to be sold under Bull's brand name, and both companies, together with Honeywell, of America, set up a joint venture in 1987 to design, produce and sell computers in America.

It is thought in Japan that NEC would take a 10 per cent stake in Bull and that the French government, which had previously opposed such a move, has notified NEC that it would allow the deal.

The French government has a 76 per cent stake in Bull. Two weeks ago, Sir Leon Brittan, the European competition commissioner, threatened an enquiry into moves by the French government to inject £680 million into Bull, after he received complaints from ICL, the Japanese-/Canadian owned computer group that is based in Britain.

Roger Fauroux, the French industry minister, claimed it was important for Europe to support its fragmented computer industry. However, subsidies of the kind proposed by the French administration are a source of growing friction in Brussels between the free-marketeers and the interventionists.

In Japan, it was felt that NEC's revelation was partly aimed at emulating last year's purchase of ICL by Fujitsu, NEC's electronics rival. Darrel Whitten, electronics industry analyst at Prudential Securities (Japan), said: "It is obvious they need a bigger presence in Europe because Fujitsu got one up on them."

Bull, however, faces serious problems. It suffered a net loss of Fr6.79 billion (£675 million) last year after a Fr266.7 million loss in 1989.

Steve Myers, analyst at Jardine Fleming Securities, said: "Bull was, and still is, a poorly-managed company under state ownership. It had to pick up alot of companies that didn't make sense — it was partly a welfare organisation."

Bull's dependence on the relatively small, French market has also contributed to its troubles, Mr Myers said.

Analysts believe that NEC, despite a considerable presence in Europe, may hope to gain a higher local profile as well as become better placed in the European market before the dawning of the single market in 1992.

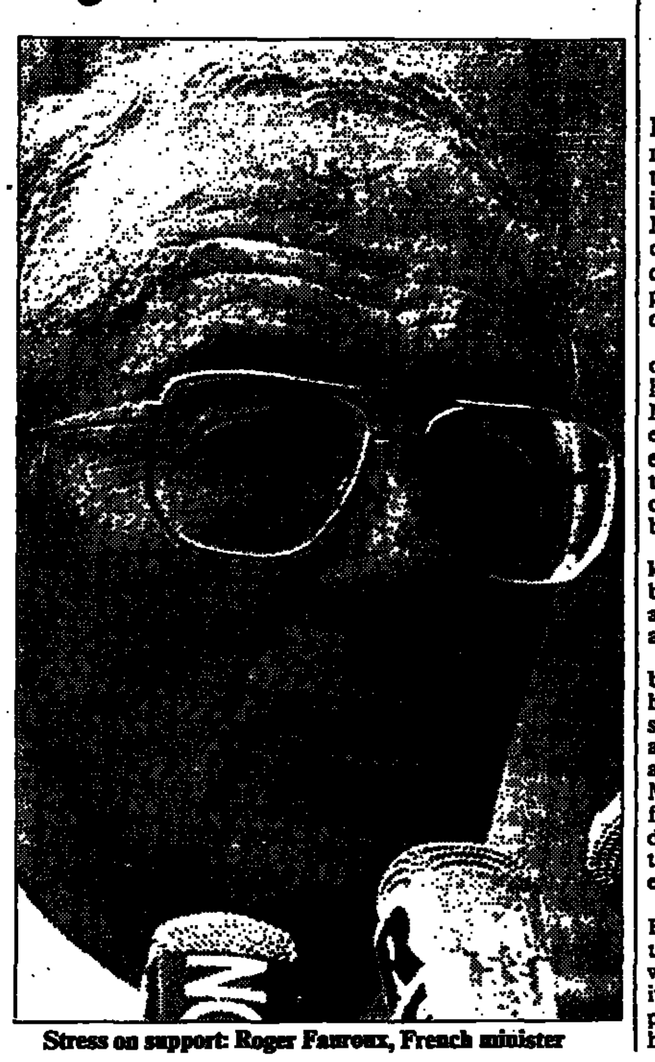
Mr Whitten added: "It's a strategic move to get behind any barriers that may go up after EC unification."

NEC said it was unable to comment on the size of a possible stake being discussed between the two firms. However, *Nikkan Kogyo Shimbun*, the Tokyo newspaper, claims NEC would take a 10 per cent stake in Bull and that the French government, which had previously opposed the deal, had now signalled its approval.

However, such a small stake might not be enough to help solve Bull's troubles and might not really bring NEC major benefits, some analysts said.

Mr Myers, noting that Bull's problems made it a less attractive investment than ICL was for Fujitsu, said: "NEC won't get a lot unless they get management control."

Peter Wolff, a vice-president at Kidder, Peabody International, the broker, said: "I don't know if NEC would get what it wants. Maybe they would get market access, but they'd also get Bull."



Stress on support: Roger Fauroux, French minister

Treuhand likely to exceed its budget

From A Correspondent

THE agency set up to privatise former East German interests, *Treuhand*, is likely to overrun its DM25 billion borrowing limit this year, highlighting the escalating costs of German unification.

An official at the agency said extra loans were needed to pay for mass dismissals in the east's decrepit industries.

The *Treuhand*, charged with selling, rescuing or closing old communist firms, has borrowed DM6 billion on short-term money markets. Yesterday, the agency launched a DM2 billion commercial paper issue.

A German official said: "At the moment, they're working to budget. But they could break it by 3 billion marks later this year."

A breach of the *Treuhand's* credit limit, set in last year's hastily negotiated unification treaty, could further strain German credit markets and keep interest rates high. Growing social unrest due to mass unemployment in eastern regions has forced the *Treuhand* to water down a harsh sell-or-close privatisation policy, yielding to union demands that dismissed workers receive at least minimum redundancy payouts. "This will hit the *Treuhand's pocket hard* this year," the official said.

The east's loss-making chemical, shipyard and steel industries have been saved from immediate closure and the *Treuhand will pay for* turning them round over two to three years.

Government economic advisers have given warning that this switch in policy will make *it* more expensive to rescue the east's economy.

After visiting the *Treuhand's* Berlin headquarters, Theo Waigel, the finance minister who has the power to raise the *Treuhand's* borrowing limit, said he would back the agency's new emphasis on rescuing failed companies to save jobs.

Irish sell-off is success

THE Republic of Ireland's first major privatisation, the sale of a majority stake in what was the state-owned Irish Sugar group, was almost three times oversubscribed.

The company, now called Greencore, said yesterday that applications were received for 111.8 million shares, but only 39.5 million were being sold at Ir£2.30 (£2.07) each. After stripping out commitments by financial institutions and discounted shares for employees and Irish sugar beet producers, 15.5 million shares were left for 87.8 million applicants.

Greencore plans to use the funds to cut borrowings and finance acquisitions.

Britain is 'facing huge fuel imports'

By Our City Staff

FUEL imports could be running at £8 billion a year by the turn of the century, a leading industrialist said yesterday. Malcolm Edwards, commercial director at British Coal, called for a long-term energy policy to avoid huge imports of gas, oil and coal.

In a lecture to the Institute of Energy at Trentham, Stoke, he said: "The culture of the Nineties is already clear for energy, and, I believe, for the economy as a whole. Within the next decade, oil imports could be costing the UK £4 billion a year.

"Coal imports could cost at least £1.5 billion a year and before long, gas imports would add a further £2 billion to the annual fuel bill," he said.

Fuel policy needed to be based on long-term prospects, he said. Britain had to conserve the best of what it could and only import fuel when the alternative was uneconomic. Mr Edwards added that near fixed-price coal contracts had done much to add strength to the successful flotation of the electricity industry.

Long-term contracts for British Coal, at a cost related to general prices in Britain, would provide the vital stability and security on power prices that consumers needed, he said.

North 'will be first region to come out of recession'

By Our City Staff

THE North of England will lead the way out of the recession, according to a survey published yesterday.

Exports have been holding up well and the longer term view on profits and turnover also remains "encouraging", says the review by the Northern Development Company and local chambers of commerce.

John Bridge, chief executive of the Northern Development Company, said: "The North *was the last region to enter the* recession and there is every sign it will be among the first to come out of it."

Bridge: 'exports holding up'

The area, covering Tyne & Wear, Cleveland, Durham, Northumberland and Cumbria, used to suffer worst during times of slump, but industrial revitalisation during the Eighties reversed the trend.

The region has not escaped the recession completely. Replies from more than 800 companies indicated that more than a third of manufacturing firms and a quarter of service companies cut their workforces during the first quarter of this year. However, the survey says exports held up well and employment was expected to stabilise over the next three months.

Peter Crowe, chief executive of the Teesside Chamber of Commerce, said: "A deterioration in business conditions in line with the national trend was to be expected. However, with the interest rate cuts since the Budget we may see some cautious optimism by the summer."

Bob Tilmouth, chief executive of the Tyne & Wear Chamber of Commerce, said that despite problems, 70 per cent of firms expected profits to rise or remain steady and 80 per cent expected to maintain or expand workforces in the coming year.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyons	500	30	44	59	1	16	23
(*525)	550	1	18	33	24	44	48
	600	1	6½	18	73	85	85
ASDA	120	2	10	12½	2	6	10
(*122)	130	1	5½	8	11	11½	15
	140	½	4	5	20	21	22
Bass	929	34	72	104	2	26	33
(*959)	977	3	45	75	20	49	53
	1026	1	26	52	68	83	88
Boots	330	46	52	59	1	4	7
(*375)	360	16	27	39	1	11	17
	390	1	14	25	17	30	33
Br Airways	140	23	25	28	½	4½	6½
(*164)	160	3½	10½	17	1	12	15
	180	½	4½	9	19	26	28
BP	300	58	62	66	1	2½	4
(*365)	330	28	36	42	1	6	11
	360	2	16	25	7	18	23
Br Steel	130	8	12½	13½	1	7	8
(*137)	140	1	6	8	4	12	14
	160	½	1½	3½	23	30	31
C & W	460	83	89	98	½	5	9
(*540)	500	45	57	70	1	13	20
	550	3	26	42	14	35	42
CU	460	58	73	79	1	4½	11
(*515)	500	18	43	52	1¼	14	24
	550	1	18	28	37	42	48
Courtauld	360	33	40	50	1	8	12
(*390)	390	5	19	31	5	21	25
	420	1	8½	19	32	42	45
GKN	330	47	58	62	1	5	9
(*375)	360	17	36	42	1½	12	19
	390	1	19	26	18	25	35
Grand Met	750	45	74	95	1	17	27
(*794)	800	4½	42	65	11	38	46
	850	1	22	42	60	68	76
ICI	1000	90	127	140	1	13	28
(*1085)	1050	40	90	107	2	25	45
	1100	6	60	79	20	45	67
Kingfisher	390	110	112	114	1	2½	6
(*500)	420	80	82	90	1	5	11
	460	40	51	62	1	12	22
Ladbroke	260	20	34	42	1	8	13
(*279)	280	4	21	30	5	15	21
	300	1	12	20	25	28	32
Land Sec	500	39	49	57	1	9	13
(*535)	550	2	15	28	17	33	38
	600	1	4	12	67	77	80
M & S	220	43	46	50	1	2	3
(*261)	240	23	27	35	1	5	7½
	260	3½	14	23	2	13	16
Sainsbury	330	34	42	51	1	5	8
(*364)	360	5	21	32	2½	15	17
	390	1	8	17	30	33	36
Shell	460	65	79	90	1	5	9
(*523)	500	25	47	60	2	10	22
	550	1	17	30	30	35	43
Smid Beech	700	123	138	157	1	3	7½
(*818)	750	73	95	117	1	9	16
	800	23	59	82	2	23	30
Storehse	110	8	13	18	1	6½	9
(*118)	120	1½	8	12	4	12	14
	130	1	5	-	15	18	-
Trafalgar	240	6	18	26	6	21	28
(*242)	260	1	12	18	23	36	39
	280	1	6	12	43	53	55
Ultramar	300	37	50	57	1	4½	7
(*335)	330	7	24	33	4	12	17
	360	1	14	20	27	30	32
Unilever	650	115	130	147		3	5
(*762)	700	65	85	107	1	8	12
	750	15	50	72	2½	22	28
	800	1½	25	45	42	50	54
Utd Bisc	330	53	62	69	1	1½	4
(*382)	360	25	36	46	1	6½	10
	390	1	18	28	11	18	21
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAA	390	38	47	60	3½	13	17
(*422)	420	17	29	42	13	27	31
	460	4½	14	23	41	53	55
BAT Ind	600	109	116	133	1½	6½	11
(*699)	650	60	76	90	4½	17	24
	700	25	47	58	21	37	45
	750	7	23	41	55	72	75
BTR	360	43	57	62	2	6	11
(*396)	390	18	35	43	8	15	20
	420	6	19	27	26	32	36
Br Aero	550	80	105	113	2½	9	17
(*625)	600	40	67	80	11	23	32
	650	14	40	53	35	49	57
Br Telecm	330	32	39	46	2½	8	11
(*357)	360	10	18	30	11	20	23
	390	2	8	15	36	39	42
Cadbury	360	30	45	54	4	9	12
(*380)	390	10	26	34	14	20	24
	420	4	13	20	40	40	42
Guinness	850	67	97	117	6½	19	26
(*899)	900	31	65	85	21	36	45
	950	12	39	58	55	65	72
GEC	200	8	13	17	5	13	14
(*201)	220	2	5½	9	20	27	30
	240	1	-	-	40	-	-
Hanson	220	14	19½	27	2½	8	9½
(*228)	240	4	9½	16	14	18½	19½
	260	1	4½	9	33	35½	36
LASMO	330	47	57	65	3	9	10
(*367)	360	18	37	50	10	19	22
	390	7	22	32	25	33	38
P & O	550	53	72	80	3½	11	20
(*593)	600	20	42	48	22	30	40
	650	5	21	30	60	62	72
Pilkington	180	18	21	27	4	13	15
(*187)	200	6½	12	17	13	24	27
	220	2½	6	10	31	40	41
Prudential	220	19	27	30	3	6½	10
(*234)	240	6½	15½	20	11	16	19
	260	1½	8	12	29	30	32

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Racal	220	21	28	36	4½	11	13
(*234)	240	9½	19	26	13	20	22
	260	4	12	18	29	34	35
	280	1½	6½	12½	48	50	51
RTZ	460	95	108	113	1½	3½	7
(*548)	500	57	74	82	3½	8	14
	550	19	40	50	17	25	30
	600	4	18	29	55	55	59
Scot New	330	50	57	-	2	6	-
(*372)	360	24	34	43	5	16	19
	390	8	17	27	21	32	34
	420	3	8	17	47	54	57
Tesco	253	27	36	-	2½	4	-
(*275)	280	7½	18	24	11	14	17
	300	2½	9½	14	28	29	30
Thames W.	280	27	32	35	4	10½	13
(*299)	300	13	19	23	9½	21	19
	330	3	7½	12	31	41	42
Lucas	140	25	32	35	1½	3½	6
(*162)	160	10	17	22	6	11	15
	180	2½	8	12	21	34	26
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Fisons	420	58	72	86	½	4½	6½
(*471)	460	18	41	56	1½	13	16
	500	1	19	34	26	32	36
	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Abbey Nat	240	43	48	54	1½	3½	4½
(*278)	260	26	33	40	4	8	10
	280	13	20	28	12	16	18
Amstrad	70	11	13½	16	2	5	7
(*76)	80	4½	8	11	7	10	11
	90	1½	5	7½	14½	17	18
Barclays	420	56	62	73	5	14	17
(*462)	460	27	37	50	17	26	30
	500	10	20	28	43	52	55
Blue Circ	240	13	22	27	13	18	23
(*245)	260	5½	12	18	25	30	32
	280	2½	7½	11	44	46	48
Br Gas	220	37	40	42	1½	4½	5½
(*251)	240	20	24	27	4½	10	12
	260	8½	12	17	13	21	23
Dixons	160	40	41	46	1	5	5
(*198)	180	23	27	33	4	9	12
	200	10	16	21	13	18	20
Glaxo	1050	70	105	124	24	43	48
(*1076)	1100	42	77	97	45	67	72
	1150	24	53	74	80	95	99
Hawker	500	83	95	101	6	15	21
(*574)	550	40	63	73	22	33	40
	600	17	36	50	55	63	68
Hillsdown	240	24	33	40	7	12	14
(*260)	260	13	22	28	17	20	23
	280	5	13	19	31	32	35
Lonrho	240	37	40	47	2	6½	8
(*268)	260	21	27	35	6½	13	15
	280	9½	17	24	17	24	26
Midland	180	46	50	55	1½	5	7
(*221)	200	28	34	40	4½	11	14
	220	16	23	30	12	20	24
	240	7½	16	22	24	31	35
Reuter	800	97	122	147	16	33	42
(*867)	850	68	95	118	34	52	64
	900	39	68	92	60	80	90
R-Royce	140	39	42	44	1	2½	4
(*175)	160	21	27	29	3½	7	9
	180	7½	14	18	12	16	18
Sears	80	13	14	16	2½	3½	4½
(*91)	90	5½	8	9½	6½	8	9
	100	1½	4	6	14	15	16
THF	260	17	26	30	10	14	17
(*273)	280	7	16	19	22	26	29
	300	2½	8	-	40	42	-
Thorn EMI	650	88	89	94	4	17	23
(*714)	700	48	55	66	16	37	41
	750	19	30	42	44	67	70
	800	9	16	-	85	104	-
TSB	130	27	29	-	1½	2	-
(*154)	140	18½	21	24	2	5	5½
	160	6	9½	13	11	14	15
Vaal Reefs	50	9½	10½	12½	4	6	7
(*$54)	60	3½	6½	8½	8½	12	13
Wellcome	460	84	100	110	5	11	16
(*530)	500	52	72	84	14	23	28
	550	24	45	57	36	45	52
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastrn Elec	160	37	38	37	1½	4	5½
(*192)	180	17	21	23	3	10	12
	200	6	10½	14	11	22	23
Sthrn Elec	160	47	-	-	1	-	-
(*204)	180	27	-	-	1	-	-
	200	12	-	-	5	-	-
Elec Pack	1800	280	-	-	25	-	-
(*£2060)	1850	230	-	-	35	-	-
	1900	180	-	-	50	-	-
	Series	Jun	Sep	-	Jun	Sep	-
Nat Power	120	16	18	-	2½	6	-
(*131)	130	9	12	-	6	10½	-
	140	4	7½	-	12	17	-

FT-SE INDEX (*£2506)

	2350	2400	2450	2500	2550	2600
Calls						
Apr	163	110	65	23	7	1½
May	177	134	97	58	39	22
Jun	195	155	120	87	61	40
Jul	213	173	140	109	83	60
Dec	—	272	—	205	—	155
Puts						
Apr	2	3½	7½	21	57	105
May	12	20	31	51	82	112
Jun	22	29	41	62	85	124
Jul	32	42	50	80	97	143
Dec	—	74	—	115	—	155

April 23, 1991 Total: 24467 Calls 15776 Puts 8691 FT-SE: Calls 1642 Puts 1962

*Underlying security price.

Court of Appeal

Law Report April 24 1991

Court of Appeal

Appropriation was not theft

Regina v Gomez

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Hutchison and Mr Justice Mantell

[Judgment April 22]

Where property was obtained with express authority of the owner but that authority was obtained by a false representation, the obtaining of that property did not amount to an appropriation within section 1(1) of the Theft Act 1968.

Thus where a third party presented a stolen cheque to the defendant, an assistant shop manager, who, although aware of its nature nevertheless obtained authority from the shop manager to supply goods to the third party, there was a *de facto*, albeit a voidable contract between the owner of the goods and the third party.

It was by virtue of that contract that the third party took possession of the goods. The transfer of the goods to the third party was with the consent and express authority of the owner and accordingly there was no lack of authorisation and no appropriation.

It would have been appropriate to have laid an alternative charge to theft: namely, one of obtaining property by deception under section 15 of the 1968 Act to which the defendant would not have had a defence.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in a reserved judgment, allowing the appeal of Mr Edwin Gomez against his conviction at Isleworth Crown Court (Mr Recorder Bassingthweighte) for theft contrary to section 1(1) of the 1968 Act.

Mr Anthony Hacking, QC (who did not appear below) and Mr James Pavry, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the defendant; Mr Philip Shorrock for the prosecution.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the defendant, who was employed as assistant manager at a shop, was approached by a third party who had in his possession two stolen cheques. The defendant was asked by him to supply quantities of goods from the shop in exchange for the stolen cheques.

The defendant asked the shop manager to authorise the supply of goods against the cheques without informing him that the cheques were worthless. The goods had been supplied.

A submission of no case to answer was made at trial by the defendant. It was argued that the goods had been sold to the third party pursuant to a contract of sale between him and the owners.

It was also said that the shop manager had expressly authorised the goods to be removed and therefore there had been no appropriation within the meaning of the 1968 Act. Those submissions were unsuccessful.

The court was referred to *R v Lawerence (Alan)* ([1972] AC 626), where it was said that "a person was not to be regarded as acting dishonestly if he appropriates another's property believing that with full knowledge of the circumstances, that other person has in fact agreed to the appropriation . . .

"Belief or the absence of belief that the owner had with such knowledge consented to the appropriation is relevant to the issue of dishonesty, not to the question whether or not there has been an appropriation."

The court then referred to *R v Morris (David)* ([1984] AC 320, 332) where it was said: "In the context of section 3(1), the concept of appropriation . . . involves not an act expressly or impliedly by the owner, but an act by way of adverse interference with or usurpation of those rights."

Those cases have been described as "two irreconcilable decisions of the House of Lords" in *Archbold Criminal Pleading Evidence and Practice* (43rd edition (1988) vol 2 para 18/15).

If there was a difference between the two decisions, that was not the view taken in *Morris* and that was the decision which the court had to follow.

Anyone who obtained goods in return for a cheque which he knew would be dishonoured on presentation, or indeed by way of any other similar pretence, would not be guilty of theft. For *Morris* decided that when a person by dishonest deception induced the owner to transfer his entire proprietary interests that was not theft.

There was no appropriation at the moment when he took possession of the goods because he was entitled to do so under the contract of sale, a contract which although voidable had not been avoided at the time the goods were handed over.

The court was also refered to a civil case of *Dobson v General Accident Fire and Life Assurance Corporation plc* ([1990] 1 QB 274), where a distinction was made between express authorisation by the owner and mere consent.

As far as the criminal law was concerned it was difficult to draw the line between express auhority and consent. Guilt or innocence should not depend upon so fine a distinction, if indeed the distinction was shown to exist.

Applying *Morris* the court concluded that there was a *de facto* albeit voidable contract between the owners and the third party. It was by virtue of that contract that the third party took possession of the goods.

The transfer of the goods to him was with the consent and express authority of the owner and accordingly there was no lack of authority and no appropriation.

This was clearly a situation where an alternative charge should have been laid under section 15 of the 1968 Act to which the defendant would not have had a defence.

Solicitors: CPS, Islworth.

Sex bias in refusing advertisement

Bain v Bowles and Others

Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Mann and Lord Justice Beldam

[Judgment April 19]

In refusing, pursuant to a long-established policy, to publish an advertisement by a man resident in Italy for a cook and housekeeper to work at his residence, the publishers of a magazine were guilty of unlawful sexual discrimination contrary to the Sex Discrimination Act 1975.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the plaintiff, Mr N. M. Bain, from the dismissal by Judge Harris, QC, on June 4, 1990 in Westminster County Court of the plaintiff's claim against the defendants, Mrs M. M. Bowles, Mr T. G. A. Bowles and Ms J. M. Budworth, proprietors of *The Lady*, and The Lady (a Firm), for, *inter alia*, a declaration in respect of an alleged breach of the 1975 Act.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Michael Lazarus for the plaintiff; Mr Frederic Reynold, QC and Mr Harry Trusted for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that the plaintiff asked the defendants to publish the following advertisement: "Tuscany — Scottish gentleman seeks referenced working housekeeper/cook for non-isolated country home in heart lovely Chianti between Florence/Sienna. Own three-roomed apartment. Write giving telephone number to" an address in Chianti.

The defendants wrote back refusing the advertisement for the reason that "we only publish advertisements offering domestic positions outside the United Kingdom when there is a lady of the household present where the successful applicant will reside and carry out their duties and that lady should be the employer."

The plaintiff brought proceedings claiming, *inter alia*, that he had been unlawfully sexually discriminated against contrary to sections 1(1)(a) and 29 of the 1975 Act.

Section 1 provided: "(1) A person discriminates against a woman in any circumstances relevant for the purposes of any provision of this Act if — (a) on the ground of her sex he treats her less favourably than he treats or would treat a man . . ."

By section 2, the provisions relating to sex discrimination against women were to be read as applying, with the appropriate modifications, equally to the treatment of men. Section 29 was concerned with discrimination in the provision of goods, facilities or services.

The defendants explained that they had had trouble in the past when they had advertised domestic positions and young girls accepting the positions had suffered sexual harassment, and therefore for over 20 years they had had the policy indicated in their letter to the plaintiff.

The judge held that there was no unlawful discrimination, on the ground that the defendants' policy, which he felt entitled to take into account by virtue of the Court of Appeal decision in *James v Eastleigh Borough Council* ([1990] 1 QB 61), was a sensible and reasonable one.

One difficulty with that was that the Court of Appeal's decision in *James* was reversed by the House of Lords ([1990] 2 AC 751), so that the defendants' motive in refusing to publish the advertisement was irrelevant.

Mr Reynold did not seek to support the judgment on the judge's ground, but said that the same result was achieved by reference to section 5(3) of the Act, which provided:

"A comparison of the cases of persons of different sex . . . under section 1(1) . . . must be such that the relevant circumstances in the one case are the same, or not materially different, in the other."

Mr Reynold drew attention to provisions in the Act containing exceptions from the unlawfulness of discrimination, such as sections 7 and 35, and submitted that section 5(3) was a similar exception.

That was not so. Section 5(3) was not a further exception, but merely an interpretation provision directed to ensuring that like was compared with like.

There was discrimination because the defendants would have allowed a woman to place the advertisement. "Relevant circumstances" did not extend to what might happen to someone answering the advertisement; they were limited to the placing of the advertisement.

Section 5(3) therefore did not provide a defence. There was no doubt that the defendants acted in good faith, but unlawful sexual discrimination was made out.

Lord Justice Mann agreed and Lord Justice Beldam delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Charles Russell; Wilkinsons, Wimbledon.

Court decides child custody issue on appeal

In re A (a Minor)

Before Lord Justice Glidewell, Lord Justice Ralph Gibson and Lord Justice Butler-Sloss

[Judgment April 19]

Decisions affecting the custody of young children ought not to be delayed and the Court of Appeal, having found that a judge's decision regarding the custody of a girl aged six was wrong, should, providing sufficient evidence was available, exercise its discretion to decide the issue instead of remitting the case for a rehearing.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the father of K, the youngest of his six children, from the judgment of Mr Christopher Holland QC, sitting as a deputy High Court Judge in September 1990, whereby he had awarded the custody of the child to her mother.

Mr Charles Bloom, QC, for the father; Mr John A. Phillips for the mother.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that K's parents, both caring people, separated in 1989 after 20 years together. K, the youngest of their six children, described as a bright, happy and independent child, had continued living in the former matrimonial home with her father and three brothers together with a housekeeper who had cared for her and her brother aged nine since their births.

The judge had ordered K's sister aged 11 be in the mother's custody: an inevitable order in the circumstances. He had then considered K, stating that there was an acute balance of arguments. He concluded by rejecting the *status quo* argument and accepting the mother's case that it was natural for a mother to have the care of her daughter ages six.

In so concluding, the judge had misunderstood the decision of the Court of Appeal in *In re H (a Minor)* (*The Times* June 20, 1990) where it was said that although it was natural for young children to be with their mothers, where there was a dispute, it was but one consideration, not a presumption.

If a child had remained throughout with the mother and was young, the unbroken relationship of the mother and child was one which it would be very difficult to displace, unless the mother was unsuitable to care for the child.

But where the mother and child had been separated and the mother sought the return of the child, other considerations applied and there was no starting point that the mother should be preferred to the father.

Here the mother and K had been separated at the time of the hearing for 12 months and at the age of six she was not in the category of very young children.

The judge had applied the wrong test. Moreover, he had relied on factors which he should not have relied on in the exercise of his discretion. His decision was fatally flawed and could not stand.

Two courses could be taken: either to remit the case for a rehearing or for the court to exercise its discretion on the facts available to it, both those available to the judge and fresh evidence which the court had allowed the parties to adduce.

Decisions as to children ought not to be delayed. This little girl had been the centre of dispute ever since her mother left home in October 1989. It was important that she should know where she was going to make her home and should not, alone of the children, remain in limbo for a further period. It was urgent that a decision be made. There was enough material on which to make one.

The points in favour of K not being uprooted were strong. She was settled where she was.

Without criticising the mother or her ability to care for K, it would plainly be wrong to move her at this stage. The appeal should be allowed and an order that the father have custody substituted.

Lord Justice Glidewell and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson agreed.

Solicitors: Jones, Maidment Wilson & Co, Manchester; Vickers, Jones Wood & Co, Stockport.

Treatment of shot victim did not cause death

Regina v Cheshire

Before Lord Justice Beldam, Mr Justice Boreham and Mr Justice Auld

[Judgment April 22]

When the victim of a criminal attack was treated for wounds or injuries by doctors or other medical staff attempting to repair the harm done, it would only be in the most extraordinary and unusual case that such treatment could be said to be so independent of the acts of the accused that it could be regarded in law as the cause of the victim's death to the exclusion of the accused's acts.

The Court of Appeal so stated when dismissing the appeal of David William Cheshire against his conviction on January 31, 1989 at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Lowry, QC and a jury) of murder, on which he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr James Stewart, QC and Mr Jonathan Goldberg, QC, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant; Mr David Howard Evans and Miss Jocelyn Sparks for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM, giving the judgment of the court, said that the victim had been shot in the thigh and the stomach. After treatment of the wounds, he developed breathing difficulties and chest infections and had died nine weeks after the shooting.

Where the jury had to consider whether negligence in the treatment of injuries inflicted by an accused was the cause of death, their Lordships thought it was sufficient for the judge to tell the jury that they had to be satisfied that the Crown had proved that the acts of the accused caused the death of the deceased, adding that the accused's acts need not be the sole or even the main cause of death, it being sufficient that his acts contributed significantly to that result.

Even though negligence in the treatment of a victim was the immediate cause of death the jury should not regard it as excluding the responsibility of the accused unless the negligent treatment was so independent of his acts and in itself so potent in causing death that they regarded the contribution made by his acts as insignificant.

The judge in this case, following words used in *R v Smith* ([1959] 2 QB 35), told the jury that the prosecution did not have to prove that the bullets fired by the appellant were the only cause of the victim's death, but they had to prove that they were one operative and substantial cause of death.

Although he erred in inviting the jury to consider the degree of fault in the medical treatment rather than its consequences, no miscarriage of justice had occurred. On the evidence, it was inconceivable that any jury would have found otherwise than that the appellant's acts remained a significant cause of the death.

Solicitors: CPS, Central Courts.

No review of search warrant

Regina v Liverpool Crown Court and Another, Ex parte George Wimpey plc

Once a circuit judge had made an *ex parte* order issuing a warrant under paragraph 12 of Schedule 1 to the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 he did not have power to entertain an *inter partes* application to review his order.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Rougier) so held on March 27 in dismissing an application for judicial review brought by George Wimpey plc against the decision of Judge Crowe at Liverpool Crown Court on March 20, 1991 under section 9 of, and Schedule 1 to the 1984 Act for a warrant authorising the police to enter and search certain premises.

LORD JUSTICE TAYLOR said that he could see the anxiety reflected in the argument on behalf of the applicant of what could happen if a judge was persuaded to make an erroneous order for example, if it was made in respect of the wrong premises. Although that was unlikely, it could be met on a pragmatic basis by bringing the matter before a Divisional Court just as swiftly as it could be brought before a circuit judge.

The scheme of Schedule 1 did not give a circuit judge power to entertain an *inter partes* application to review an *ex parte* order made under paragraph 12.

Correction

In *R v Social Fund Inspector and Another, Ex parte Healey* (*The Times* April 22) the last paragraph should have read:

Solicitors: Duncan Forbes, Crickhowell, Thorpes, Hereford and Ms Victoria M. D. Chapman; Solicitor, Office of Social Fund Inspector; Solicitor, DSS.

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Equity Inc	78.18	83.14e	-2.51	6.40
Euro Gth	178.0	188.5c	-1.0	2.70
Euro Smlr Cos	154.0	163.5	-0.6	1.20
Exempt	68.21	71.44	..	4.10
German Gth	44.47	47.28	-0.48	0.80
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Do Inc	33.04	35.34e	-0.12	4.49
Inc Gth Acc	65.08	69.61	-0.28	4.36
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Do Acc	59.14	62.81	-0.49	1.53

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F East/Gen	52.31	55.65c	+0.38	0.00
Do Acc	52.81	55.65c	+0.38	0.00
Glenfriars	228.1	242.7e	+0.7	2.02
Do Acc	247.2	263.0e	+0.8	2.08
Growth	288.5	304.9	-2.9	3.42
Do Acc	468.3	486.1	-4.7	3.42
Inc &Gth Inc	328.3	349.3	-3.3	5.18
Do Acc	398.6	424.1	-4.0	5.18
Master Portf	£82.69	87.69e	-0.28	3.01
Do Acc	£92.29	97.15e	-0.31	3.01
Spec Sits	63.61	67.68	-0.55	3.27
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Capital	484.7	495.0e	-3.9	4.00
Euro Index	107.4	114.6	-0.7	1.86
Euro Growth	70.51	75.25	-0.32	2.53
Far East G & S	70.03	74.73	+0.61	0.78
Gold Gen S S	57.80	61.66	+0.33	5.03
Income	445.9	473.1e	-3.2	4.92
Intl Gth	63.31	67.56	+0.19	2.08
Jap Index	65.49	70.05	-0.02	0.77
N Amer	298.6	319.7e	+3.1	1.89
Tiger Index	93.29	99.56	+0.97	1.81
UK Index	108.8	114.0	-1.0	4.11
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Pacific Portf	58.74	63.17	+1.09	2.81
Portf	59.23	63.35	+0.18	2.90
UK Inc/Gth	56.5	60.8e	..	4.76
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2, Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ Tel: 071-588 1815				
Inv	536.2	542.6	..	5.29
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UK Gth Acc	83.44	89.23e	-0.47	2.85
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Bech Int Cp Ac	61.03	62.71	..	3.64
Friar Hse Inc	170.6	180.5e	-4.0	5.23
Friar Hse Cap	201.5	213.5	-2.8	2.73

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Eurofund	31.31	33.09	-0.22	1.21
Exempt Mngd	142.8	147.9e	..	3.80
Extra Inc	84.82	88.65e	-0.67	7.54
Growth/Inc	201.2	213.8	-2.0	5.03
High Dist	147.8	157.0c	-1.0	6.82
High Inc	104.2	111.2	-1.2	7.05
Intl	268.5	283.2	-0.5	1.55
Intl Inc	62.54	66.65e	+0.16	6.25
Pacific	36.99	39.30	+0.20	1.02
Smlr Jap Cos	70.46	74.93	-0.33	0.00
Tokyo	194.3	194.8	-0.1	0.00
Ex Am 2	155.1	157.3e	..	1.59
Ex Jap 3	124.9	128.3	..	0.08
Ex Smlr Jap 4	577.0	582.9	..	0.08

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UK Gth Accum	153.6	163.4c	-0.9	2.21
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N Amer Acc	79.33	84.39	-0.33	1.08
Euro Acc	102.5	109.0	..	0.25
UK Gilt/FI Inc	54.95	58.22	+0.17	6.20
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High Inc	110.8	116.7	-1.02	5.61
Gt/Fxd Interest	49.08	51.81	..	9.30
T Of Inv Ts	110.7	116.5	-0.37	3.12
Spec Sits	98.69	103.9	-0.80	4.10
N Am	76.26	80.27	+0.69	1.25
Far East	182.7	192.3	+0.49	1.21
Intl Gth	77.38	81.35e	+0.28	2.38
Euro	56.00	58.95	-0.49	2.02
Smllr Cos	56.42	59.39	-0.15	4.66
EQUITY & LAW St. George Hse Corporation St. Coventry CV1 1GD Tel: 0203 553231				
UK Gth Accum	255.1	271.4e	-2.1	3.61
Do Inc	191.9	204.2e	-1.7	3.61
Higher Inc Acc	453.3	482.3e	-4.6	5.24
Do Inc	300.3	319.5e	-3.1	5.24
Gilts/Fxd Acc	133.0	140.1e	+0.2	9.08
Do Inc	79.57	83.78e	+0.06	9.08
N America	164.1	174.5e	+1.0	0.00
Far East	228.7	243.4e	+0.2	0.67
Europe	204.9	218.0e	-0.9	0.48
Genl	348.2	370.3e	-4.8	3.63
Genl Acc	361.4	388.3e	-3.3	3.63
Br Excellence	53.22	56.62e	-0.48	3.36
Br Fdrdle Inc	57.24	60.90e	-0.68	5.58
Do Acc	67.20	71.49e	-0.65	5.58
Global Ops	57.15	60.80e	+0.18	0.52
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Road Hildenborough Kent TN11 9DZ Tel: 0800 414161				
American	159.4	169.6	+1.1	0.00
Cash Unit	127.83	●	+0.10	12.65
European	97.16	103.5	-0.21	0.00
Gthvng	120.6	130.0	-1.4	4.69
Inc Plus	111.2	119.3	-0.9	8.43
UK Gth	51.81	55.35	-0.37	0.00
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse Primrose Street London EC2A 2NY Tel: 071-628 8000				
Euro Income	79.39	84.70	-0.42	3.54
Far East	122.3	130.4	+0.3	0.00
O/seas Income	67.29	71.83	+0.22	3.90
UK Growth	72.29	77.32	-0.70	2.32
UK Inc Fund	109.4	117.0e	-1.0	5.06
US Smlr Cos	129.0	135.0	+0.6	0.00
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155, Bishopsgate London EC2M 3FT Tel: 071-374 4100				
Am Smlr Cos	264.8	280.5	+1.2	..

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
UK Cap Inc	148.4	158.6	-1.1	4.11
Do Acc	236.9	252.3	-1.7	4.11
Do Spec Sits	49.40	52.84	-0.53	2.16
Inc Fund	105.3	112.7	-0.2	7.29
Intl	188.7	198.3	+1.1	1.27
US/Genl	65.12	69.34c	+0.34	0.86
Jap & Genl	383.0	408.3e	+3.2	0.00
Far East/Gen	192.8	206.2	+1.4	0.41
Euro	314.0	334.4	-1.3	1.16
Germany	84.50	89.58	-0.57	0.00
Intl Inc	55.23	58.81	+0.25	5.69
W'wd Spec Sit	84.41	90.28	+1.12	0.14
Global Prp Inc	47.13	50.41c	-0.15	2.94
Do Acc	48.20	51.53c	-0.15	2.94
Smlr Cos Div	41.20	44.07	-0.09	5.41

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St. London EC3R 8AJ Tel: 071-623 1212 Dealing: 0277 264421 Services: 0800 289336				
UK Growth Trusts				
British Gth	36.77	39.12	..	2.13
CashTrust**	111.98	●	+0.08	11.59
Pract Inv Inc	87.80	94.21e	-0.59	3.72
Do Acc	176.1	188.8e	-1.01	3.72
UK Sml Cos	97.15	104.1	-0.26	2.62
Income Trusts				
Extra Inc	64.54	69.03c	-0.27	6.19
Preference	20.22	21.63e	-0.05	12.81
High Inc	32.66	34.92e	+0.08	5.10
Income	106.8	114.2	-1.04	4.05
Intl Fxd Int	22.76	23.97e	+0.18	6.63
International Trusts				
Gold Inc	63.77	68.39	+0.95	4.89
Euroventures	19.34	20.32	-0.16	1.95
Frontier Mkts	33.55	35.91e	+0.04	0.81
Glob Inc/Gth	87.97	93.97e	+0.21	3.49
UK/Intl	88.47	92.46	-0.25	3.35
Overseas Trusts				
American	91.10	96.89	+0.80	1.10
European	63.87	67.76	-0.35	1.20
Euro Sel Opp	53.09	56.21	-0.62	0.40
Am Emerg	46.85	50.01	+0.45	0.00
Hong Kong	47.26	50.58	-0.22	2.92
Japan	174.5	185.4	+0.46	0.00
Pacific Gth	89.28	95.82	+0.57	1.19
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton Hse, 4, Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR Tel: 071-378 7979 Dealing 071-[illegible]				
Intl Gth	102.4	108.6	-0.01	0.80
Amer Growth	79.91	85.46	+0.44	0.00
Euro Growth	57.81	61.63e	-0.16	0.45
Ger Horizons	41.07	43.88	-0.22	1.76
Jap Growth	72.67	77.72e	+0.26	..
Pacific Inc	98.92	105.7	-0.62	2.60
Pacific Strat	67.06	71.72	+0.35	0.00
UK Prog Inc	74.19	78.34	-0.15	5.88
Gt British	46.48	49.85e	-0.24	2.22
UK Smll Co	38.65	42.32e	-0.02	3.92
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 38 Harbour Exchange Square London E14 9GE Tel: 071-538 [illegible]				
Cash	116.0	●	+0.1	11.97
Gt/Fxd Interest	107.1	112.4	+0.1	9.16
Gth Equity	285.6	303.4	-3.1	3.20
Guardhill	371.8	395.0	-4.8	3.19
Inc Tst	110.3	118.7	-1.4	4.76
Intl	130.0	137.5e	+0.6	0.09
Managed	476.9	505.2	-3.1	..
N Amer	181.8	192.3e	+1.2	0.76
Pacific	310.1	328.1e	+0.9	0.72
Prop Share	208.9	222.7	+0.9	4.31
Smlr Cos	215.1	227.6e	-0.9	2.69
Euro Trust	318.3	338.6	-0.5	0.36
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 669 Edinburgh EH12 1EW Tel: 0800 [illegible]				
Global Adv Inc	29.91	30.85	-0.02	2.86
Global Adv Acc	29.12	30.57	-0.02	2.86
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Admin: 5, Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Tel: Enquiries 0277 227300 Dealing 0277 690300				
Amer Equity	52.05	55.23e	+0.44	5.70
Canadian	47.47	50.37	+0.62	1.35
Equity Inc	102.9	108.5	-0.8	7.41
Euro	122.2	129.8e	-0.4	0.94
High Inc	73.02	77.68e	+1.46	8.79

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Brit/Oseas	182.2	192.8c	-0.4	[illegible]
Inc Plus	89.52	94.73e	..	[illegible]
Cap Gth	90.75	96.01e	..	[illegible]
Invest Trst	100.4	106.2e	..	[illegible]
KEY FUND MANAGERS 36, Fountain Street Manchester M2 [illegible] Tel: 061 236 5362				
Equity/Gen	61.85	65.80	-0.89	[illegible]
Gt/Fxd Interest	68.20	72.17	+0.02	[illegible]
Higher Inc	151.6	160.9	-0.1	[illegible]
Income	87.94	94.06	-0.76	5.73
Intl	73.27	78.79e	-0.58	2.88
Smlr Cos	54.94	58.75e	+0.06	3.45

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch St London EC3 Tel: 071-956 6600 Dealing: 071-956 7364				
Income Trusts				
Cash Accum**	60.17	60.46e	+0.05	12.37
Extra Inc	51.58	54.87e	-0.81	6.49
Gilt Yield Inc	105.8	112.7e	..	9.31
Global Inc	168.5	179.2c	+2.3	4.46
High Yield Inc	120.1	127.8e	-0.8	5.86
PPP Inc	9.49	10.10e	-0.07	5.04
Sml Cos Div	42.29	44.86c	+0.10	5.88
Capital Growth Trusts				
Am Smlr Co	72.17	76.78	+0.79	0.00
N Amer	60.87	64.76	+0.83	1.20
Euro Inc	109.2	116.2	-1.2	0.96
Euro Spec Inc	77.04	81.96	-0.87	1.21
FO Invest Trst	27.16	28.91	-0.15	2.42
Genl Inc	241.7	257.1	-1.8	3.70
Intl Recov	113.2	120.4	+0.7	1.69
Jap Inc	372.1	395.9c	+4.5	0.00
Jap Spec	198.9	211.6e	..	0.00
Master Acc	201.8	214.7	+1.1	1.03
Pacific Inc	196.9	209.5e	+1.6	0.40
Smlr Cos Inc	91.68	97.48	+0.05	3.76
UK Eq Gth Inc	31.02	33.00	-0.28	3.30
L&S UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 112, Dundas Street, Edinburgh EH3 5EB Tel: 031-556 8151				
European	55.36	58.75	..	1.42
Extra Inc	22.44	23.82e	-0.12	5.44
Far East	19.43	20.67e	+0.07	0.74
Income/Gth	60.34	64.00	-1.01	4.04
Intl Gth	38.93	41.31e	-0.46	1.58
Japan	51.96	55.19	+0.10	0.00
Max Dist**	97.37	99.32e	+0.05	10.50
N Am Equity	28.95	30.83	+0.17	0.93
UK Equity	68.72	73.11e	-1.42	4.85
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1, White Hart Yard London SE1 Tel: 071-407 5966				
Inc/Growth	46.52	49.49	-0.20	5.89
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5, Rayleigh Road, Brentwood Essex Tel: Enquiries: 0277 227300 Dealing: 0277 690300				
Equity Dist	364.9	368.2	-2.9	3.68
Do Acc	653.6	695.3	-5.2	3.66
Do Inc	86.16	91.56	-0.52	5.19
European	61.66	66.67	-0.58	1.05
Far East	134.3	142.9	+0.5	0.00
Fixed Interest	43.34	45.99e	+0.02	8.22
Gilt	77.91	82.44e	-0.05	7.90
Global Gth	52.74	56.11	-0.05	0.87
Intl Bond	45.38	48.11	+0.47	6.90
Japanese	57.61	61.50	+0.10	0.00
O'seas Equity	62.79	66.07	+0.29	0.95
Natrl Res	74.47	79.22e	+0.61	0.18
N Amer	99.19	105.5	+1.05	1.54
UK Recov	58.11	61.82e	-0.37	3.25
UK Spec Sits	86.25	91.75	-0.60	3.43
W'wide	64.00	68.08	-0.24	2.25
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten House Chatham ME4 4JF Tel: 0634 834313				
Balanced	273.3	287.7c	-2.8	3.89
Do Acc	554.5	583.7	-5.8	3.88
Cont Euro Gth	42.48	44.67	-0.46	1.34
Do Acc	43.7	46.0	-0.5	1.34
Energy Intl	61.22	65.13	+0.11	0.01
Do Acc	72.88	77.54	+0.15	0.01
Extra Inc	220.0	234.0	-3.0	5.22
Do Acc	492.5	518.6	-6.6	5.22
German Gth	86.93	91.51	-1.36	0.44
Do Acc	88.96	94.72	-1.41	0.44
Income	469.9	490.5e	-4.5	4.60

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Sml Co Acc	88.8	94.7e	-0.1	4.63
Sml Co Inc	50.7	53.6e	-0.1	4.63
Trustee Inc	31.5	33.4e	-0.1	4.98

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Jap Growth	295.8	316.4	+0.6	0.00
Do Acc	311.3	333.3	+0.6	0.00
Mandarin Acc	64.43	68.91c	+0.44	0.57

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Holb Smlr Cos	67.38	72.01e	-1.06	2.85
Holb Spec Sits	82.74	88.50	-0.98	3.71
Holb UK Gth	92.81	99.04	-1.11	3.40

	Bid	Offer	Chng	Yld
Equity Inc	71.75	76.74	-0.90	6.25
W'wide Tech	42.83	45.81	+0.05	1.28
W'wide Recl	35.58	38.03	-0.29	4.02

The prices in this section refer to Monday's trading

To Place Your Advertisement
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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Fax Numbers:
071-481 9313
071-782 7828

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

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TM

Tel 071 584 3222
Fax 071 584 5105

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If you have bilingual (French) secretarial qualifications and have thought about working in Paris but don't know where to start looking, why not call TM International who will be interviewing candidates in London from 24th to 26th April for many exciting vacancies in Paris.

If you are an experienced recruitment consultant with fluent French we would also like to hear from you.

Please ring (071) 584 3222 to arrange an interview with Tanya or Francesca.

London — PARIS — Brussels

INSEAD

INSTITUT EUROPEEN D'ADMINISTRATION DES AFFAIRES FONTAINEBLEAU
(France) *(60 Km South of Paris)*
seeks
BILINGUAL SECRETARIES
(English/French)

* Communication skills, sense of organisation and availability necessary
* Keen to work in a multicultural environment
* Two or three years first experience required

Please send CV, photo and salary requirements to:
INSEAD - Service du Personnel
Boulevard de Constance
77305 FONTAINEBLEAU CEDEX

The Language Specialists

SPANISH POISE ....
City based finance co req top level PA to their MD. Candidates must be fluent in Spanish, have excl sec skills and a "City" background. Highly responsible role with plenty of involvement. To £20,000 max.

FRENCH FINANCE
Major intl bank seeks dynamic French biling sec to join busy team. Excl sec skills ess, but more important are a lively personality, excl org skills & good tel manner. Great career post. To £14,000 excl bens.

JAPANESE PR ....
Our clients, an intl city bank, are looking for a Japanese MT asst to help business people coming over from Japan. Excl org skills required and basic Japanese WP skills. £12,000 neg.

LOCAL LINK WITH ITALY ....
— If you live in the Slough area! A sen PA is urgently sought for Dir of Intl co. He's a trouble-shooter so the going will be tough - but the job extremely satisfying. Excl sec skills inc sh. £17,000 + bens
PS - German Receptionist/Translator urgently sought. Eng MT. city bank £neg ase.

MERROW EMPLOYMENT AGENCY
071-499 3939
73 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9DD

Japanese Speaker?
to £18,000 pkg

The London office of a major financial firm needs a UNIQUE person - someone with Japanese as their second language. Working in Corporate Planning will involve you in research and project work as well as secretarial back up. Ideally a graduate, you should be numerate and be able to precis written Japanese into English. Age 20-30, typing/WP required. Excellent benefits include subsidised mortgage. Please telephone Catherine Ferguson on 071 588-3535 for an immediate interview.

Crone Corkill
Multilingual

ON Y VA:
£13,500 & banking bens.

A bi-lingual secretary with fluent French is sought by large City based US investment bank to assist three associates on the hectic trading floor. You will need to translate correspondence from English into French, co-ordinate their European travel and liaise with clients. The ability to prioritise, a flexible attitude to long hours and your immediate availability are pre-requisites. Typing 60wpm. Age 22-26. Please call Elizabeth Williamson on 071 256 5018.

HOBSTONES
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ENGLISH/ ITALIAN PA
INTERNATIONAL CO IN SLOUGH REQUIRE PA TO ASSIST MD.
100 SH/70 TY
£17,000
HEADWAY PERSONNEL
081 940 7654

Bilinguasec
PART OF THE BILINGUAGROUP

GO FOR GOLD! ! £19,800
Opportunity of a lifetime to live/work in GERMANY — all relocation fees paid! World famous drinks company need TOP secretary with energy and enthusiasm - real involvement and excellent prospects! Fluent German, good sec skills a must. Great perks - 30 days holidays! 14 month salary!

POISE & POLISH! £16,000
Fluent [illegible] and top PA skills for unique opportunity within Int Oil Co. Outstanding position, liaise at top level, never a dull moment! Real challenge - your position - chance to make your mark. S/H & typing a must - opportunity to travel!

REC CONS - 071 929 5373
071 493 6446

Bilinguasec
PART OF THE BILINGUAGROUP

AVOID THE CRUSH!!! £17,500
Excellent prospects for TOP PA with fluent German, S/H (Eng & German) and sense of humour. Int. Co. based in Milton Keynes - beat those commuting blues! Arrange & attend meetings, liaise at senior level, make the break, CALL US NOW!
5 weeks hols!

CHAMPAGNE & CAVIAR!!! £14,000
Fluent French and endless energy? Run the show for international cuisiniers - market & co-ordinate their private dining room, oversee personnel functions, recruit from France, liaise at all levels. Catering experience, flexibility & sec skills a must!
REC CONS 071 493 6446 071 929 5373

PA/SECRETARY GERMAN m/t TV/MEDIA ADVERTISING

Enjoy the exciting world of Media Advertising abroad with the subsidiary of this major British TV company!

Your language skills, excellent telephone manner, flair for marketing, good organisational and communicative skills will secure you a top position with this progressive corporation.

International Secretaries
Tel: 071-491 7100
Fax: 071-491 2875
Recruitment Consultants

EURO SECRETARIES
Unique opportunity for a bright starter in banking (Mayfair office)
Are you a French/ Italian bilingual who is familiar with WANG and comfortable at 65 wpm (no shorthand).
Here is your chance!
Tel: 071-435 0718

INTERNATIONAL TRADING IN W11
Junior administrator/secretary for general office support needed for small international trading company. Fluent French (French mother tongue preferred), WP skills, flexibility essential, would suit second-jobber or poss, first-class college leaver. Salary c£ 11K.
Please send CV + covering letter to Ms Carne
17A Ladbroke Gardens, London W11 2PT
(No agencies)

PARIS
College leavers & PA/Secretaries needed for positions in Banking/Legal/Fashion
Fluent French + minimum 50 wpm WP required
SHEILA BURGESS INTERNATIONAL
Personnel Consultants
The Power House, Alpha Place, London SW3 5SZ
LONDON : 071-351 6951 or PARIS (1) 44 63 02 57

BILING French C/Leaver Sec for Personnel Dept of Int co £10k. 071-287 0424 Language Recruitment Services

BILING German Sec for Int trading co £14-16k. 071-287 0424 Language Recruitment Services

BILING Spanish Sec Sec for Dir of City Co. £15k 071-287 0424 Language Recruitment Services

BILINGUAL SEC £14k + bens 21-24 yrs. French + German +/or Spanish. Young lively International Co. West End. 55 wpm typ S/H useful. 18-24 mth sec exp essential. 071 584 3222 TM INT Rec Cons

DIRECTORS PA to £17,000. A successful organisation based in Mayfair urgently seeks an organised, self-confident individual to provide full back-up to a busy Director incharge of all the business in Spain & France. Good working knowledge of both languages, previous financial experience and 60/70 skills are essential. Please telephone 071 240 3511 Elizabeth Hunt Multi-lingual Division

D.T.P. with Applemac WP exp essential. Full sec role with conversational French. Shorthand an advantage. Wonderful opportunity. £16,000. Call Don Wright on 071-589 8898 Drake Personnel Rec Cons.

DUTCH m/t with fluent English £16,000 plus. A fast working pace in a demanding international environment could give you the fresh challenge you're looking for. If you are working at Senior Director level, are competent and assertive with a strong sense of humour combined with excellent secretarial skills call Immed Int Secs 071-491 7100

JAPANESE translator with keyboard skills. Long term contract, immed start. Link Language Appts 071-405 2150.

EUROPEAN Shorthand Secretarial immediate start. Junior & Senior posts to £18,000 p.a. (Min 2 yrs exp + shorthand 80wpm min + typing 65wpm min.) For rapidly expanding International Bankers in the City. Superb banking benefits include mortg. mortgage subsidy & 26 days hols. Fluent French, German or Russian required. For appl telephone Monica Freudenheim on 071-583 4749, Merrow Multi-lingual (Rec Cons)

FLUENT German - spoken and written as PA to this senior banker. Age early 20's. English shorthand essential. £16,000 + 6 weeks hols + mortgage subsidy worth another £5,000 a year. Call Nan Myers on 071-377 2666 Secretaries Plus - The Secretarial Consultants.

FRENCH - Mayfair based International organisation requires a college leaver/ Junior secretary with one year's experience. Your good French will be used on a daily basis when liaising with their French clients and Paris office. Promotional prospects are excellent and there is unlimited scope for developing this position. Skills 60/50. Salary £10,500 + bonus and good benefits. Call Diane Denny at MacBlain Nash on 071-872 5889 for an immediate interview (Rec Cons).

FRENCH/ Italian Trilingual Secretary c£12,000 sought by International City Bank. Full admin/sec role with emphasis on ability to use initiative and excellent customer liaison skills. Typing 60wpm + WP (no shorthand). Age open. Immediate start. The Language Business 071-379 3189 (Rec Cons).

GERMAN PA to Director £16,000 + Banking Benefits. This is a true 1:1 role working with a charming German Director of a leading International Bank. Extensive liaison with clients abroad, full administrative back-up and good career prospect. Min 2 years sec experience, skills 80/70 essential. Finance background preferred. Please telephone 071 240 3511 Elizabeth Hunt Multilingual Division

GERMAN. Marketing Assistant/ Secretary c£13,000 is sought by Chelsea based Design Consultants. Fluent German (to mother-tongue standard), excellent tel manner & ability to work autonomously ess. 40wpm typ & WP. Age early 20's. The Language Business 071-379 3189 Rec Cons

ITALIAN/ Spanish Trilingual Secretary - youngish but experienced, with fast typing, and good WP/ DTP skills, to work for International sales team. £14k-£17k plus bonuses and other extras. Multilingual Services (Recruitment Consultants) 071-836 3794.

PARIS - French bilingual secretaries urgently req'd for several interesting posts in Paris. English m.t. with total fluency in french, previous office exp & excellent sec skills in both languages. Salaries up to £14,500 pa. Circuit Bilingual Rec Cons 071-255 3277

TELEVISION Co. need Personnel Admin Sec. £14,500. French/ Italian. Applemac. D/Base. fast WP ess. Age 20-24. Tel: 071-493 8611 Albany Appts.

PART TIME VACANCIES

PART-TIME
Opportunity to take part-time receptionist/secretarial (audio) position with young lively company in West London. Morning hours 8.30 a.m. to 1 p.m; salary negotiable. Contact: Mrs F. Hipwell 081-741 8361.
No Agencies

PART Time Careers Ltd. We have vacancies available for S/H or audio secretaries, accountants/ book-keepers, manual and computerised, accounts clerks and receptionists. If you are seeking a part-time permanent job in central London working mornings/ afternoons, 1/2/3 or 4 days per week or part of every day. Phone Part-Time Careers for an appointment on 071-437 3103. 10 Golden Square, London W1.

2 Part-Time secretaries needed for small busy offices in W1 and W11. 60wpm typing essential & ability to work 5 half days. c£9,000. Call Jo Rowan 071-493 8824 Judy Farquharson Ltd (Rec Cons).

RECEPTIONIST required to work from stunning SW1 offices. Varied role. Hours five half days, skills 50/WP. Age 25-45. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071 437 6032. Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

MATURE part-time shorthand /audio secretary req to work on a 1 to 1 basis in Knightsbridge Company. Good use of English language essential. Hours and salary negotiable. Please Reply to Box No 3820

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AS 400 OFFICE
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MACTEMP

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BANKING & LEGAL LA CREME

WE have immediate assignments for experienced Temporaries with New Word for Windows. Banking and Languages are useful. Ring Angela Mortimer Plc Rec Cons on 071-287 7788.

W1 SOLICITORS PA/ SECRETARY
required for principal of small friendly W1 Solicitors. Legal and WP exp essential. (non-smoker)
Please send CV and details of current Salary to:
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Nigel Adams & Co.,
10 De Walden Court,
85 New Cavendish Street,
London W1M 7RA.

RECEPTION SELECTION

RECEPTIONIST English m/t with fluent German for City based foreign bank with switchboard/reception experience, excellent telephone manner and presentation. Must be flexible and willing to assume a variety of duties. Salary plus package according to age. Int Secs 071-491 7100.

EXECUTIVE receptionist. Are you an experienced, well groomed front liner? If you are, this successful Accountancy firm could be interested in you. Working with one other, your previous exp. liaising with senior staff will be essential. Age mid 20s; avail. immed., sal £12,000+. Call Reception Line (Rec Cons) on 071-872 [illegible].

A RECEPTIONIST with flair and initiative is sought by Super City firm of solicitors. Ideally you'll be early 20's boasting dress sense and a nice speaking voice. Relevant exp. ess. 071-242 7654, Legal People Agy.

RECEPTIONIST Mon/Wed/Thur 9.00 to 5.30. Kensington High Street. Articulate, intelligent, stylish! Salary £7200 p.a. plus first class benefits. Call Sue Doughty 071 281 2292 (Rec Cons)

RECEPTIONIST - Heathrow £10,000 + Bens. Int Co. needs an experienced person, with Monarch SB age 25+. Typing useful. All social graces a must. Call Christine Watson Ltd. Rec Cons. 071-536 8255/224 6696.

Crème de la Crème
also appears in
THE TIMES
on
pages 42 and 43

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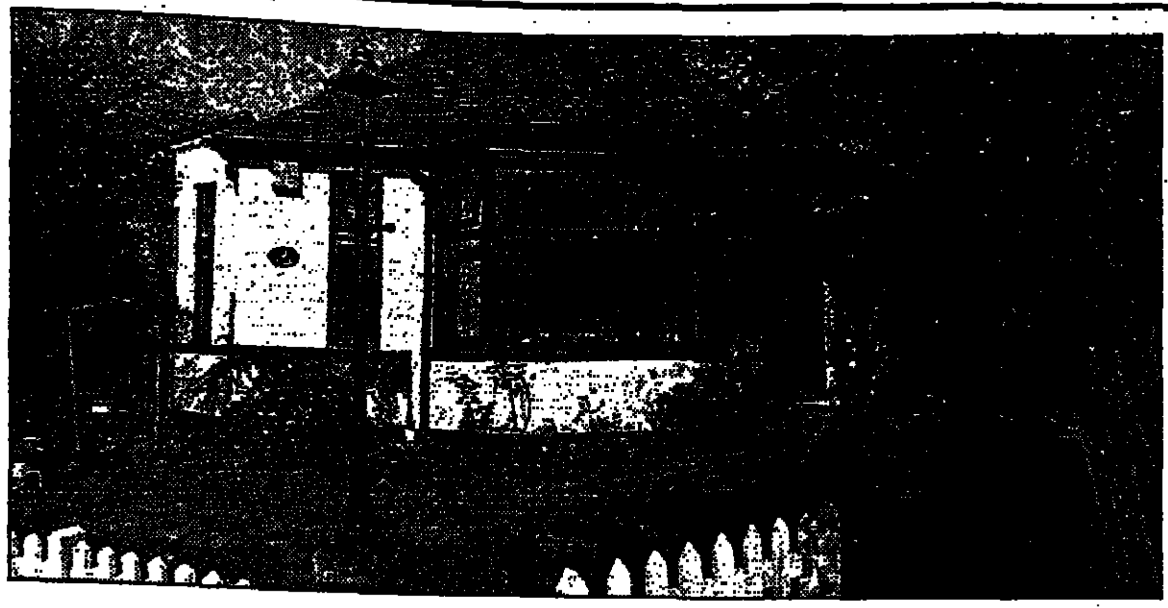
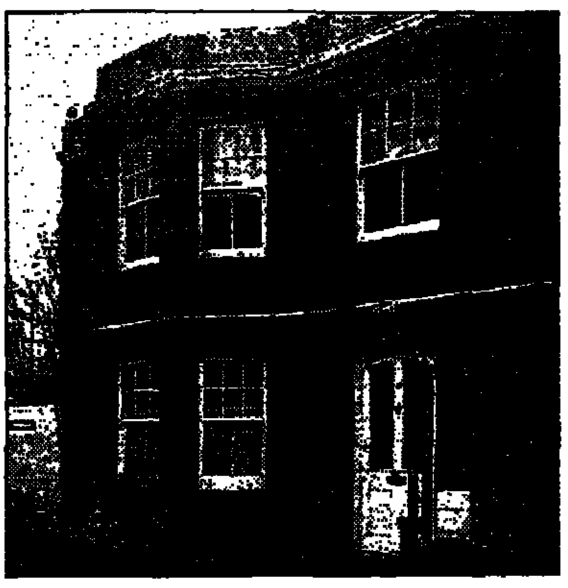
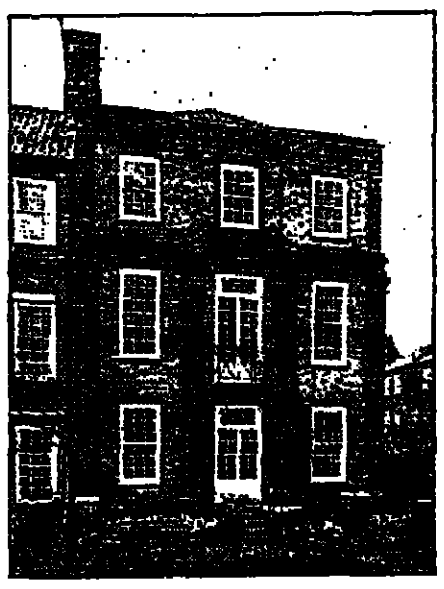




Far left: this single-storey, country-style one-bedroom cottage is offered by Ellis & Co in Nether Street, Finchley, for £124,950.

Left: another cottage, in Cumberland Crescent, West Kensington, is for sale at £325,000 through Knight Frank & Rutley. The three-bedroom former porter's lodge has a garden dovecot.

Right: thought to be one of central London's finest Queen Anne-style houses, the lease of this six-bedroom property in Chelsea Square, Chelsea, is for sale at £2,750,000 through John D. Wood.



London leads homes revival

Property prices are rising in the capital, where the decline began.

Christopher Warman examines the evidence of a market recovery

London had the dubious privilege of leading the property market decline, but estate agents say there is evidence that the capital is about to lead the recovery. Sellers, however, no longer expect 1988 prices. The latest *review* by the agent Barnard Marcus shows that prices in prime central London areas rose by 0.5 per cent during the first quarter of 1991, and that prices in the rest of Greater London and Surrey have stabilised.

A substantial increase in enquiries and sales was reported, and even a few gazumpings. About 40 per cent of prospective clients were first-time buyers, compared with 30 per cent in the previous quarter, and demand exceeded supply *in* property up to £200,000. Barnard Marcus therefore expects values to rise by 5 per cent during the second half of the year.

The end of the Gulf war and the drop in interest rates were the catalysts for recovery. *Brian* D'Arcy Clark, of Chesterfields, says that although the war was blamed for depressing the market, "in retrospect, the war did it a favour as it crystallised what would have happened anyway, *although over a longer period*". He explains: "The recovery has been brought forward. The residential market, always first in and last out of any cycle, is set to lead the other markets out of recession."

Values are *10-20* per cent lower than in 1988-9, even lower if inflation is considered. However, Mr D'Arcy Clark says the ratio of disposable incomes to property prices has returned to healthy mid 1982 levels, when steady price rises began. "We do not see prices rising at anything like the level *they did from 1982, as the* memory of the recession will still be fresh. This will have a restraining influence."

As interest rates fall and the dollar strengthens against the pound, trading conditions are improving, and as there is a smaller disparity between price brackets, people should now trade upwards, Mr D'Arcy Clark says.

John Vincent, of Savills, agrees that the market has been a "bit more exciting" in the past six weeks. "There has been a lot of fence-sitting, but people are now *taking decisions,*" he says. *Prop*erties that have been on the market for up to a year are now selling.

Sellers are also more confident and are seeking the asking price, but a sale in Grosvenor Square, central London, highlights a significant change. A large flat, on the market for about a year, has just sold for about £2 million. Although the price was the highest for some time, the property would have fetched nearer £3 million at the height of the market.

Mr Vincent says the people who converted properties in South Kensington during the boom are back again, although there is not much good stock left there.

Patricia Farley, of Farley & Co, which specialises in Kensington, Chelsea and Knightsbridge, says: "We are running out of stock of quality apartments." The company reports all the 70 flats in new developments on its books have been sold or are under offer. "Undoubtedly the market bottomed out in autumn of last year and the slack is now being taken up fast," Miss Farley says. "Prices have begun to rise and interest in some properties has even led to the reappearance of gazumping."

Richard Crosthwaite, of Knight Frank & Rutley, says: "Things are definitely better than six months ago. The worst scenario is that we are bumping along the bottom, but I believe we are recovering."

Whatever the state of the market, London can always offer something different. Ellis & Co is selling "a country cottage" in built-up *Finchley*. The single-storey, one-bedroom cottage in Nether Street stands behind a garden with a whitewashed fence, and has a large reception room with a beamed ceiling. The asking price is £124,950.

Knight Frank & Rutley is selling Cumberland Lodge, a detached three-bedroom cottage in Cumberland Crescent, West Kensington, which has been extended since the actor Michael Goldie bought it six years ago when it was a porter's lodge in a street of houses. The cottage has two reception rooms and a walled rear garden, including a dovecot with doves. The asking price is £325,000.

On a grander scale, number 68-68A Chelsea Square, Chelsea, was built when the square, which was then named Trafalgar Square, was created in 1928. Until this year it had been owned by one family and is considered one of central London's finest Queen Anne-style houses. The house, with an adjoining mews house, has reception rooms overlooking the square and six bedrooms, garages for four cars and parking for another four.

The 35-year lease is being offered at £2,750,000 through John D. Wood.

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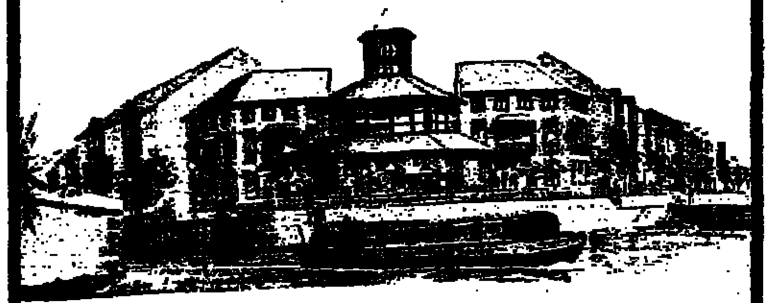

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BEAUCLERC RD, W6. Spacious family house. 30ft reception. kitchen/diner. 5 beds, 2 baths. garden, cellar, loft. Close tube. parks. Quiet street. £315,000. 081-741 1201 after 7pm.

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BETWEEN Hampstead and Golders Green. 2 bed flat in Edwardian terrace. Gdn. GCH. Recep. Carpets throughout. [illegible] kitchen. utility bath, [illegible] room, loft for storage. No chain. £79,450. Tel: 060 [illegible] 218 (W/Ends) 081 455 4232 (Eves).

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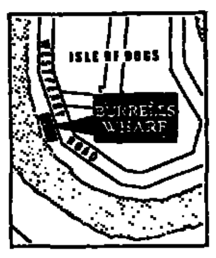

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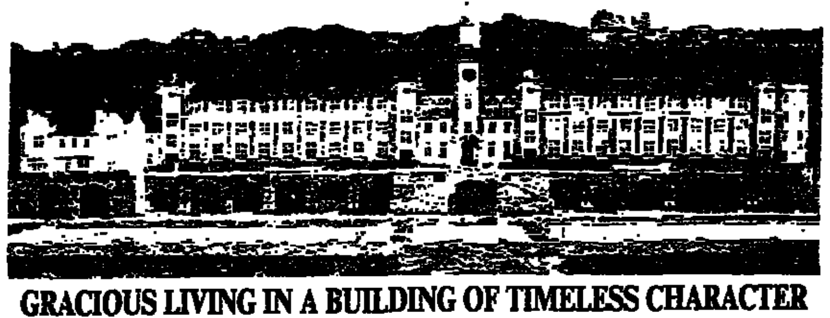

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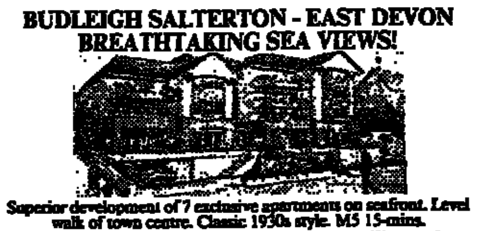

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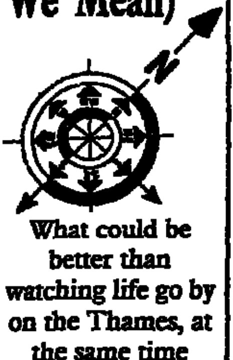

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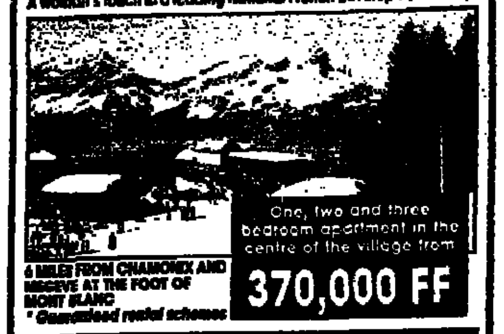

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WISTERIA COTTAGE Whitchurch-on-Thames 18th Cent Grd II semi det. gdn. secluded close. 2 bed. bath. oak beam recep with inglenook. mod kit. gch. 5 min J12. M4. £125,000. 0734 842182.

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BUCKS/ NORTHANTS Border. Canalside village. 6 beds. 5 reception, 3 baths, detached house plus studio. Nearly ½ acre. 10 mins mainline station. OIRO £280,000. 0908 566226.

N.E. BUCKS In attractive village. Immaculate large luxurious 4 bed. sole storey character home. Vaulted beam ceiling lounge. dining. kit/b'fast. utility. 2 baths (1 en-suite). clkrm. Gas CH. sauna. dbl gge. garden. Private without being isolated. Under 40 mins from Euston. £265,000 Tel. (0296) 688071.

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ST ALBANS Early 18th century coach-house grade 2 listed. 3 recept. rms. kitchen and utility room. Master bed. ensuite. 4 other beds. bathroom. conservatory. swimming pool. games room. approx 1.5 acres in secluded rural position. double garage and ample parking. £395,000. Tel 0727 868621.

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Continued on next page

Stopping crime by design

The Grand Union, a 72,000 sq ft office park in Packet Boat Lane, Uxbridge, Middlesex, has been selected as the pilot project for Secured by Design, the police campaign to improve security in commercial property.

The crime prevention campaign establishes a set of minimum security standards for property, and its implementation in offices and shops follows the success of the scheme in the new homes market.

The need for better security was illustrated in a recent survey by the agents Vail Williams, which stated that 70 per cent of office tenants taking part expressed dissatisfaction with the amount of thought paid to security in their buildings.

The Grand Union features the key security elements required for new commercial developments to qualify for the Secured by Design award, including defined perimeters, minimum security standards, security lighting, secure car parking and the provision of wiring for intruder alarms.

Under the scheme, a police officer works with the developers, identifying security requirements and their implementation.

Mike Anderson, of Clarke Nickolls & Coombs, joint developers of the Grand Union with Try Group, says: "We hope to demonstrate the importance of high levels of security in the development of property, providing minimum security requirements for potential occupiers who can then develop the systems to suit their particular business."

Paddington's Paris boulevard

A railway goods yard could be turned into a shops, offices, homes and arts centre with cafés and piazza. Christopher Warman reports

An ambitious scheme for the regeneration of a derelict 13.5 acre site next to Paddington station is a stage nearer after Westminster city council last week gave it conditional outline planning consent.

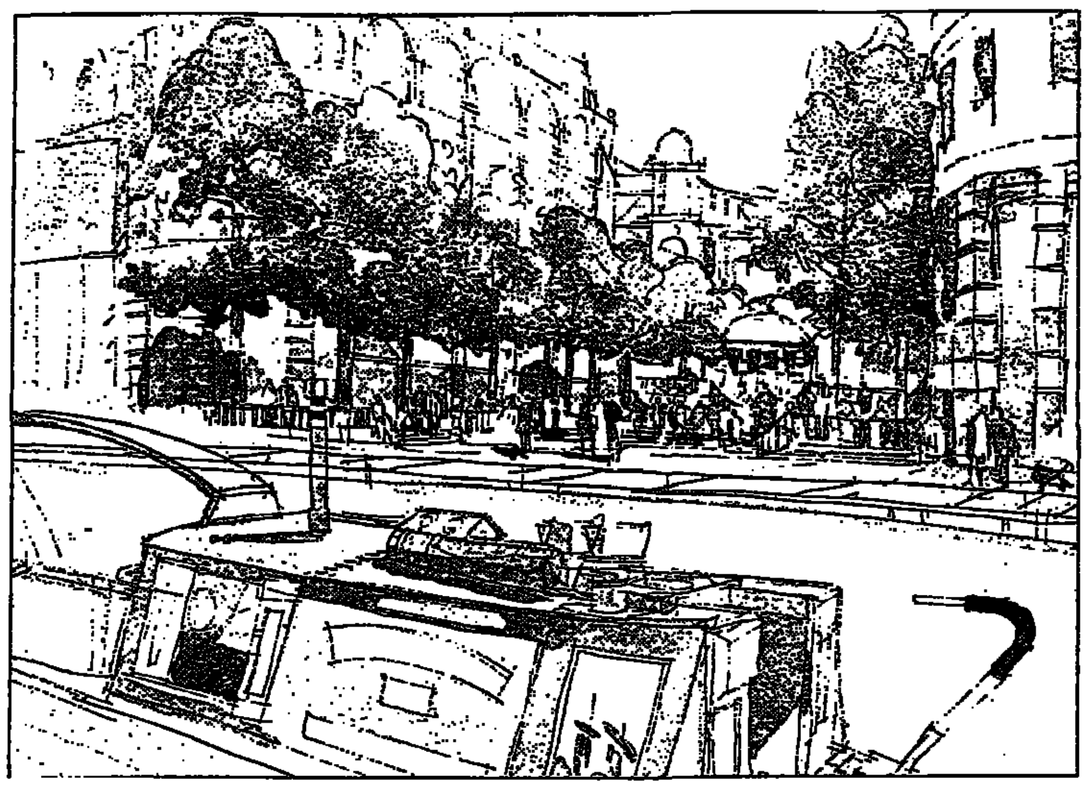
The £1 billion redevelopment of the old railway goods yard at Bishopsbridge has been given consent on condition that details of more than £38 million of community facilities are agreed.

The scheme will include 1.7 million sq ft of offices, cafés, shops and homes, space for studios and small businesses, and a community centre and arts centre. There will be an emphasis on landscaping, and the site will have a tree-lined street layout designed to resemble Parisian boulevards, with three new public squares, the largest of them bigger than the piazza at Covent Garden.

With the Canary Wharf development at Docklands and the Broadgate project near Liverpool Street station under way, the Bishopsbridge scheme falls into the next group of proposed big developments in London, along with County Hall and King's Cross, but has now moved ahead of them with the council's decision.

The Bishopsbridge site is being developed by Grainhurst Properties, a joint venture between Regalian, Higgs and Hill and Hyperion Properties.

Lee Goldstone, managing director of Regalian, the largest shareholder in Grainhurst, says the decision has brought them one step closer to beginning work on Bishopsbridge, "which is the last great development opportunity in the City of Westminster.



On the waterfront: an artist's impression of the Bishopsbridge piazza project seen from the canal

"With our discussions with possible funding partners proceeding well, we anticipate the first phase of the project being completed by the mid Nineties."

The developers hope to start work on the site late this year or early next, with completion in 1997. Mr Goldstone explains that the scheme is market led, and that the developers are already in discussion with a number of potential tenants.

"When we started on Paddington it was very much the poor relation of the County Hall and King's Cross schemes. Now people are beginning to realise that Paddington is going to be the new office centre for London. Bishopsbridge will offer companies the most up to date office facilities, an impressive range of transport links and all the benefits of working in the West End."

Since the first planning application was submitted in November 1989, the scheme has changed as a result of discussions with the council and with the Royal Fine Arts Commission. Originally it included 26-storey towers and provision for 2,500 cars, but both these ideas have been abandoned.

There is now agreement that none of the 13 buildings that comprise the development will be higher than 13 storeys, and the number of cars has been reduced to 496 to minimise traffic in the area. That has in part been made possible because transport improvements mean that 98 per cent of the 12,000 people expected to work and live on the site will be able to use public transport.

Grainhurst will provide the land and will construct a new underground station that will serve the Hammersmith and City Line and provide a direct link to Paddington main line station, as well as to the proposed Heathrow Express rail link and the crossrail line to the City.

"We listened to what people had to say on issues such as traffic and the height of buildings and have made considerable changes as a result. Bishopsbridge will be designed to encourage a thriving and lively environment for those who live and work there," Mr Goldstone says.

IN THE MARKET

Mirror on the Thames

A £15 million office development on the Albert Embankment, designed by Lorenzo Apicella and looking across the river Thames towards the Houses of Parliament, has been given planning consent. The 38,000 sq ft office scheme by Charterhouse Estates includes an eight storey building clad mainly in glass, with its northern front facing Parliament. Charterhouse is now aiming to enter into pre-letting or pre-sale discussions with potential occupiers through the agent Knight Frank & Rutley.

☐ Number 1 King Street, Manchester, a shops and office investment, has been sold to Scottish Life for about £9 million. The propety produces an income of about £800,000. The imposing buiding of 60,000 sq ft was built at the turn of the century as the original department store of Kendal Milne & Co, and has been refurbished to provide the present accommodation.

☐ Markheath Securities has let, prior to completion, the entire 140,000 sq ft Fountains Office Park development on the Great West Road at Brentford, west London, to the international pharmaceutical and healthcare group SmithKline Beecham.

The scheme includes four office buildings, with 520 car parking spaces, and the net rental more than £3.7 million a year. SmithKline Beecham is retaining its present headquarters, SB House on the Great West Road, and is expecting to relocate 650 staff by the end of the year.

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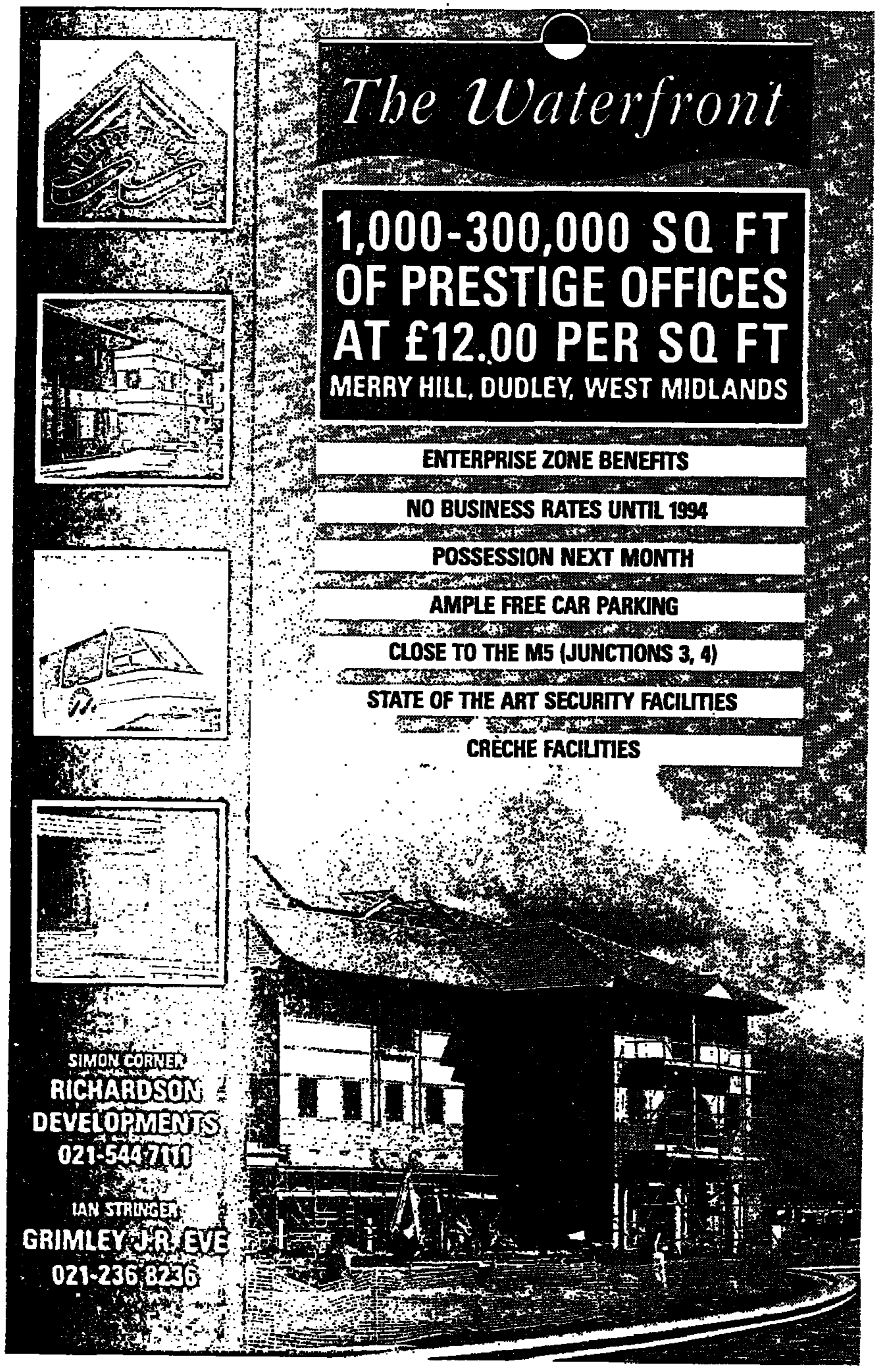

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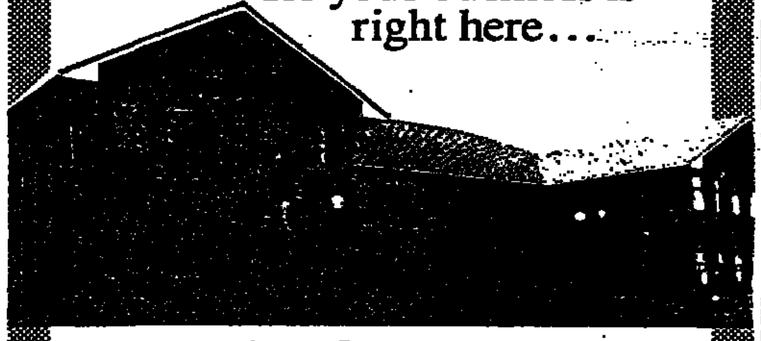

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The right wheels for a rough ride

Potholed city streets are the habitat for many of Britain's mountain bikes, says Antony Cox

Mountain bikes arrived in Britain from California in the early Eighties. Now there are nearly three million of them to be seen up hill, down dale and on city streets, where, even well secured, they are tempting targets for bicycle thieves armed with heavy-duty bolt-cutters.

In London, nearly 2,000 couriers have adopted mountain bikes for delivering urgent mail. However, despite the promise of their name, mountain bikes are better suited to potholes than to peaks, and you are more likely to find yourself up a rutted trackway than at the top of Ben Nevis.

The mountain-bike adventurer and author, Nick Crane, has pedalled in his time to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and across the Atlas Mountains in Morocco. However, he says his experiences convinced him that mountain bikes, which he describes as "pedal versions of Land-Rovers", are no good on mountains but, with their knobbly tyres, sure handling and wide range of gears, are ideal for off-road tracks and potholed city streets.

"They have opened up a whole area of terrain and wilderness that was not accessible by bicycle previously," he says. "I often think of the versatile, all-terrain mountain bike as a kind of contemporary horse."

Tom Sillis, the chairman of the Mountain Bike Club (MBC), disputes the frequent claim that most mountain bikes keep their wheels firmly on the tarmac. "New buyers may start by thinking they are not going to go off-road," he says, "but then they get two little horns popping out of the top of their heads and they are off up a bridleway."

Newcomers can expect to pay a price for their first off-road venture on a mountain bike. Arms ache, thighs feel sledgehammered, and standing up or sitting down makes little difference to tender buttocks. The potential rewards, which may not come until after a hot bath, are a tremendous sense of exhilaration and achievement.

"For somebody who is not used to exercise it will be quite hard work," concedes Karen Lochhead, who runs a mountain bike hire business at the Nordic Ski Centre at Braemar in Scotland, and offers bikes for a typical charge of £12 a day, during which anything from six to 30 miles may be covered.

"Mountain biking is not glamorous. It is exercise. It is getting into the hills up Land-Rover tracks. We encourage people to go off-road and cycle on the tracks. It does not damage the environment and it does not damage the bikes. Despite the challenges, it is an accessible sport. There are lots of easy tracks."

Mountain biking attracts all types. Hirers at Braemar range from family groups to individuals determined to cover as much difficult terrain as they can in the shortest possible time. "People can go as fast as they like," Ms Lochhead says. "You get some who are very cautious and use their brakes all the time, and you get others who just will not use the brakes at all."

Ms Lochhead has seen the sport become increasingly popular during her four years in business.

Mr Sillis says the first mountain-bike purchase is traditionally a standard machine by, or for, a youngster doing a paper round. "At about the age of 16 they will get their first reasonable mountain bike for racing," he says. "Then people just carry on. The current national champion is 52. A lot of people aged about 25-45 ride in the country just as a leisure activity."

Ms Lochhead claims: "There is not a level of risk in mountain biking. It is entirely up to individual riders how safe they want to make their participation in the sport."

However, she encourages all hirers to take the helmets she offers, and the MBC's advice to new riders is to make the helmet a top priority.

CLAIRE MACKINTOSH

When the going gets tough . . . mountain bikers at Dovedale in the Peak District put their transport on their backs to cross the water

Mountain bikes cost £200-£300 for a starter machine up to nearly £3,000, which Mr Sillis says is a price to be paid only by "serious racers or serious poseurs". Most bikes are better bought from a specialist dealer than by mail order or from a hypermarket, but this is particularly true for mountain bikes, where good advice is vital.

The first-time buyer has to be wary of cheap machines that merely look mountain bike-ish. These cheapies will never cope with the shake, rattle and roll of off-road cycling.

As for the life expectancy of a mountain bike, Mr Sillis says that is like forecasting the number of full stops in a bottle of ink. "A well serviced bike should last you a long time," he says. "Build up a rapport with a good shop and let them look after your machine."

Mr Sillis believes mountain biking is a serious sporting activity, although he acknowledges the fashionable appeal of machines with "wide handlebars and a dodgy saddle". He says: "There are plenty of people around who think it is far better to be seen going down the King's Road to Safeway on a mountain bike than to turn up on a machine with no street cred."

The MBC believes novice bikers need training in basic handling skills if they are to go off-road. They need to know how to handle potentially dangerous situations, such as suddenly coming across a tree lying across a trackway. "Knowing how to act is as important as actually owning a bike and we can offer training to prepare people to meet the challenges," Mr Sillis says.

● *Further information: Tom Sillis, Mountain Bike Club, Santon House, Santon Downham, Suffolk IP27 OTT (0842 812359); Rough Stuff Fellowship, 51 Herst Drive, Streeton, Burton upon Trent, Staffs, (0283 65467); London Cycling Campaign, Tress House, 3 Stamford Street, London SE1 9NT (071-928 7220).*

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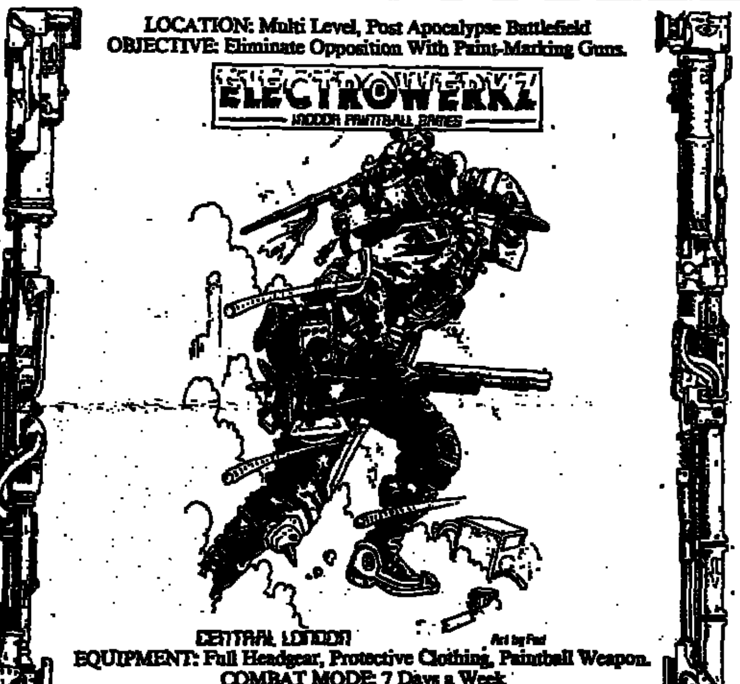

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مكان الاعلان

The man who is formulating a corporate plan to suit any ambitious rugby club

Newbury are with the Woolwich

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE approach and language of the business world are becoming increasingly common currency in rugby union. Clubs have learned that, with the dramatic rise of competition within the structure of their own sport and without, they must be run as businesses or court inevitable decline.

This week, two of England's most famous clubs, Richmond and Blackheath, who helped found the Rugby Football Union, stand in danger of relegation to the third division of the national championship. They have not reacted fast enough to changing market conditions; or, as David Robson might say, they have lacked a corporate plan.

Robson, senior partner in a firm of accountants, was one of the Bath coaching triumvirate during their onward and upward march of the 1980s. He resigned last summer after a policy dispute within the club and has spent much time since acting as a consultant (unpaid) to anyone who would care to avail himself of his services. Those include the national unions of Romania and Namibia, whom he has helped design a five-year plan.

His approach to rugby is not dissimilar to that of Terry Burwell, the former Leicester and Northampton centre, who took up a three-year contract last summer as Newbury's first paid director of coaching and administration, with an immediate brief to lift the club into the national divisions within three years (later expanded to five).

Burwell, previously a manager with the Woolwich Building Society, brought the methods of his former job to his present one and has been rewarded in his first season with Newbury's promotion to the southwest first division.

Namibia and Newbury may be worlds apart but the preconditions for success are not so different. Robson, drawing on his experience with Bath, who were fortunate to have the management, coaching and conditioning skills of Jack Rowell and Tom Hudson available, has formulated a corporate plan to make Namibia a world force by 1995.

The plan identifies appropriate strategies, an action campaign accompanied by a monitoring system. With modifications, depending on scale and resources available, Robson argues, the plan would suit any ambitious rugby club.

He is keen to encourage visits to Namibia by overseas sides — just as Bath have long argued the case for the expansion of club fixtures so that players may be exposed to the best of foreign influences. Robson wants to find an individual from Britain willing to act as a youth development officer so as to broaden the coaching base in schools and prepare the ground for the Namibian Ministry of Sport to make its own national appointment.

"Rugby is big business now," Robson said. "Clubs are finding themselves in a different world and many have not thought about it. There has got to be one person in every club who seeks objectives and has the business ability to plan properly. Money isn't everything, but you can't do things without it."

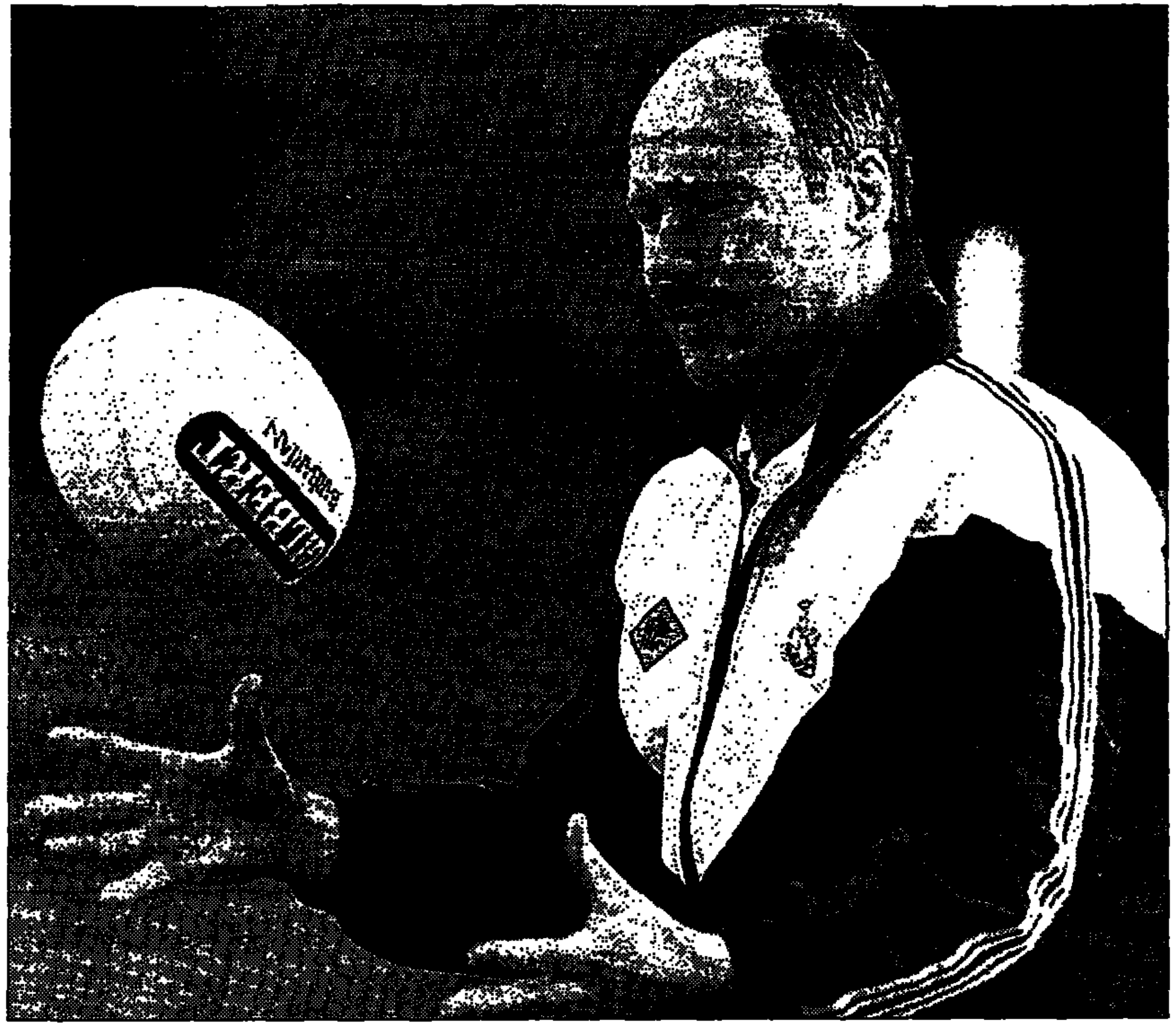
Friends told Burwell he was crazy to give up the security of his building society post and become a paid administrator. "I had thought about my long-term prospects but I didn't approach the job from the point of view that I would fail," Burwell said. "If I am successful I am a commodity of which there are only five or six at the moment."

As coach, with Paul Bryant, at Northampton, Burwell saw the revolutionary process at work inside the Midland club which, within two years, has turned them into this season's cup finalists. "At Newbury we are in a position similar to Northampton. The management committee has to have the corporate vision of where it is going but the difference with Northampton is that it has been an evolutionary process over the first year.

"On the other hand, I had to ensure promotion this year to convince the doubters about what we were doing." One of Burwell's first tasks, at a club which is in the process of selling its present site at Pinchington Lane for several million pounds, was to review and recommend changes to the management structure. His report noted the fact that, while a three-year playing plan was being established, there was "no detailed corporate plan as to the club's ... objectives over both the short and long-term periods.

"In the Woolwich, we had been dealing with the management of change, in the financial services market. But the same principles come into rugby: we are in a changing market, changing influences on the players, changing pressures on players and officials. It was my job to manage that change so that we are all pointing in the same direction."

JULIAN HERBERT



Having a ball: Burwell, a former building society manager applying his financial acumen to a rugby club.

At one against the Dutch

By DAVID HANDS

THE Netherlands, who meet England's under-21 side at den Bosch on May 18, will this weekend play a unified Germany for the first time, in a group game in the FIRA tournament at Naarden.

The English squad, which will prepare in Wolverhampton over the weekend of May 4 and 5 for the matches against the Dutch and the French Armed Services four days later, excludes players who have appeared for the B team this season, but a healthy nucleus has considerable first-team experience at club level.

The two hookers, Rob Cockerill and Andy Fields, played opposite each other in the county championship under-21 final at Twickenham on Saturday, when Warwickshire (led by Cockerill) beat Hampshire 19-18.

ENGLAND UNDER-21 SQUAD: Backs: S Swindells (Manchester), R Liley (Cahors), S Wills (Leicester), L McKenzie (Coventry), S Bromley (Liverpool St Helens), L Boyle (Moseley), P Flood (Bridgend), N Matthews (Gloucester), R Booth (Sale), S Douglas (Newcastle Gosforth). Forwards: G Rowntree (Leicester), N Lyman (Moseley), W Bullock, R Cockerill, D Andreou (all Coventry), A Jackson (Harrogate), A Fields (Nottingham), D Sims (Gloucester), R West (Ledbury), G Adams (Bath), J Pearson (Gloucester), M Rennell (Bedford), S Ojomoh (Bath).

☐ The Rugby Football Union has upheld Kent's decision to ban Askeans for 14 days following their sixth sending-off of the season. Askeans cannot now play their Courage Clubs Championship third division game at West Hartlepool on Saturday and the match has been awarded to Hartlepool, who become champions.

IRELAND TOUR PARTY (to Namibia, July): Backs: K Murphy (Constitution), J Staples, S Geoghegan, D Curtis, R Saunders (all London Irish), K Crossan (Instonians), R Wallace (Garryowen), J Clarke (Dolphin), B Mullin (Blackrock College), N Barry (Garryowen), V Cunningham (St Mary's College), F Aherne (Lansdowne). Forwards: D Fitzgerald (Lansdowne), J Fitzgerald (Young Munster), G Halpin (Wanderers), N Popplewell (Greystones), T Kingston (Dolphin), S Smith (Ballymena), N Francis (Blackrock College), M Galwey (Shannon), B Rigney (Greystones), P Matthews (Wanderers, captain), G Hamilton (NIFC), P O'Hara (Sunday's Well), N Mannion (Lansdowne), B Robinson (Ballymena). Itinerary: 17: v Namibia B (Windhoek). 20: v Namibia (Windhoek). 23: v Namibia South sub-union (Keetmanshoop). 27: v Namibia (Windhoek).

ICE HOCKEY

Raiders forfeit a Wembley place in dying seconds

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

CARDIFF Devils, Durham Wasps, Murrayfield Racers and Peterborough Pirates will be at Wembley at the end of this week for the Heineken championships.

After the closest play-offs in the history of the competition, the quarter-finals were in doubt until Sunday night, and one must have some sympathy for Ayr Raiders and Whitley Warriors, whose hopes were dashed at the very last.

The Raiders can count themselves particularly unfortunate as they took a 7-6 lead over Peterborough with only two-and-a-half minutes remaining, but Danny Shea scored twice in the last 75 seconds to see the Pirates through.

Shea used to play for Ayr and Rocky Saganiuk, now the Peterborough coach, took Ayr to Wembley two years ago. But there was no added satisfaction for him because this year's success was at the expense of his former team. "I really did not want this to happen," he said. "The emotions are just too strong and you feel for the team." Ayr were only in contention on Sunday because they won a thrilling game against Durham on Saturday, hanging on to win 8-7.

For the Warriors, a surprise away win over the Racers was followed by a disappointing performance against the Devils. Doug McEwen put Cardiff on the board after only ten seconds and they scored five times without reply in the third period.

Durham and Solihull Barons happily did not have a repeat of the previous weekend's unfortunate fracas, but Brent Sapergia received a "deliberate attempt to injure" penalty and was ejected from the game midway through the first period.

In contrast, Murrayfield had no penalties in their 7-2 win over Nottingham Panthers, but they have a doubt about Scott Neil, their Great Britain forward, for Saturday's semi-final; he is having intensive treatment for a rib injury.

Humberside Seahawks and Bracknell Bees won their respective play-off groups to gain promotion to the premier division and, in the qualifying play-offs, Milton Keynes Kings joined Lee Valley Lions in the Heineken League next season.

RESULTS: Heineken Championship play-offs: Ayr Raiders 8, Durham Wasps 7; Murrayfield Racers 6, Whitley Warriors 8; Nottingham Panthers 5, Cardiff Devils 9; Peterborough Pirates 8, Solihull Barons 6; Ayr Raiders 7, Peterborough Pirates 8; Cardiff Devils 9, Whitley Warriors 2; Durham Wasps 20, Solihull Barons 6; Murrayfield Racers 7, Nottingham Panthers 2. Promotion-relegation play-offs: Cleveland Bombers 5, Bracknell Bees 5; Fife Flyers 10, Romford Raiders 10; Humberside Seahawks 12, Telford Tigers 2; Swindon Wildcats 10, Slough Jets 11; Bracknell Bees 8, Swindon Wildcats 5; Cleveland Bombers 8, Slough Jets 5; Humberside Seahawks 8, Romford Raiders 6; Telford Tigers 11, Fife Flyers 4. Qualifying play-offs: Medway Bears 8, Milton Keynes Kings 7; Lee Valley Lions 7, Glasgow Saints 5; Oxford City Stars 10, Glasgow Saints 7; Tayside Tigers 6, Medway Bears 2.

RACKETS

Smith dominates favoured pair

By SALLY JONES

NEIL Smith and Shannon Hazell, the professional champions, defeated the favourites and world doubles champions, James Male and John Prenn, in seven keenly fought games at the Lacoste British Open doubles final at Queen's Club.

Smith, of Chicago, has improved steadily since returning to England before the world singles eliminator, and he played the decisive role despite the mobility and determination of Male, the world champion, and the experience of Prenn, a former champion.

Well supported by the fluent Hazell, of Clifton, Smith thundered his left-handed forehand down the side wall and served tightly, keeping the professionals one game ahead for most of the three-hour match.

The pair's thoughtful tactics and ability to play to Prenn, the senior player on court, finally gave them the edge after some extraordinarily long rallies, full of fine retrieving and kills.

RESULT: N Smith and S Hazell bt *J Male and J Prenn*, 15-2, 7-15, 15-12, 13-18, 15-4, 12-15, 15-12.

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RECEPTION - £13,500 - young, dynamic product design /graphics co based in WC1 seeks a committed person to play a pure reception role. This is a buzzy, busy setting - meeting, greeting and handling incoming calls. High standards? Confident presentation? Calm under pressure? Age guide 28-40. Call 071-493 5787 Gordon Yates Consultants.

SUPER SECRETARIES

£12,600. Wonderful opportunity for excellent 1st Jobber Sec with S/H or 2nd Jobber to work in fund raising dept of well-known centrally based charity. Young & versatile with good tel manner. Norma Skemp Recruitment 071-222 5091

A DYNAMIC Management team based in lovely offices is offering a superb opening to a young secretary able to handle a busy and involving role. Accurate typing (min 50 wpm) and at least six months' previous experience are essential. Opportunities for further progress are excellent. Salary negotiable to £12,000. Please call Ian Archibald 071 491 1868 La Creme Consultants

£16,500 aae well-known soft drinks company needs a senior secretary to join its expanding legal department. As part of a small professional team, you will provide full secretarial support to your newly arrived US boss. This is a new position which would suit a perfectionist with an interest in legal matters. Age: 25-40 Skills: 80/60 The Recruitment Company 071 831 1220

AUDIO/SEC Knightsbridge Prop Co (£13,000 + bens) Young team, friendly atmosphere. Min 55 wpm typing. Mrs Prosser 071 259 6999 Beauchamp Bur

BANKING - c£14,000 + benefits. Good opportunity exists for Secretary with fast, accurate skills (90/60wpm) for City based job. Must be a good communicator. Would suit 2nd jobber. To discuss this and a wide range of opportunities in media, publishing, charities and blue-chip companies call Graduate Appointments (Rec Cons) on 071-379 0333.

BRIGHT very competent Medical Secretary required for two Harley Street Surgeons. Good salary. Phone 071 636 4327

CHARITY - A high profile young peoples Charity needs an efficient secretary to help organise two busy executives. Plenty of scope for development. 50 typing. Age 20-35. Please ring Angela Mortimer Plc Rec Cons 071-287 7788.

CHISWICK PA £16,000. Working for charming MD of Intl Consultancy. WP 5 and DTP exp ess. Age 25-35. Tel: Cathy. Albany Appts 071-493 8611.

EVENING Secretaries required for large West End Bank. Hours 4-11pm (£15,000) and 6-10pm (£13,000) both vacancies offer full banking benefits. Candidates must have excellent secretarial skills (SH useful), a flexible approach and a good standard of education. Age 22-35. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071 437 6032. Hobstones Recruitment Consultants

INTERNATIONAL Interests. An excellent opportunity has arisen within this top British company, based in the West End, for a young enthusiastic secretary to work in a key department. This position would ideally suit a junior secretary with 6 months to a year's secretarial experience and good skills (100/50) who wants to learn first hand how a major company is run. Main duties would include full secretarial support to the Director, travel arrangements and general administrative work in a fast moving environment. Age (18-24), salary £12,500 + free lunch + bonus and much more. Please call Diane Denny at MacBlain Nash for an immediate interview on 071-872 8889 (Rec Cons).

INVESTMENT Banker W1 requires a mature PA/sh secretary to run small and busy office. Salary £16,000 aae. Cavendish Personnel 071-486 7897

LOTS of fun because you will attend various sporting events as secretary to the PR/ Marketing Manager of this promotional body. You are 21-26 and have 70+ shorthand. Sports facilities. £11,750. Call Lyn Wilkie on 071-439 7001 Secretaries Plus - The Secretarial Consultants.

MAYFAIR office of a National Firm of Surveyors requires a good secretary to help run their small, friendly office. You will need to enjoy organising, have excellent audio/WP skills. c£15,000 + bens. Please contact Philippa on 071-493 3043

MUSIC - £14,000. Work for the MD of a prestigious Music Company. Office administration skills and 80/40 and a good team spirit is essential. Age 27-35. Ring Angela Mortimer Plc Rec Cons 071-287 7788.

PARTNER'S PA. A gifted and dynamic tax specialist needs a well qualified secretary (audio and WP) to handle a full support role and also assist in the management of his team and the team's administrative support. Plenty of opportunity to use your initiative, perception and common sense. Salary (with review imminent) c£14,500. Please call Deborah Burrows 071 491 1868 La Creme Consultants

PA/Sec. Mid-late 20s with strong IT ability to assist overworked Manager of Tec Support Team. Competent in DOS, MS Word, Lotus 123 etc. Analytical mind, amiable outlook! Engs. Call Frances or Jessie on 071-589 8807 Joyce Guiness Rec Cons.

PA TO Chief Executive £18,000 ++ Beautiful Sloane Street office housing private financial services company currently seek a top level PA/Secretary with financial experience. Organising an extensive business as well as social diary -including shooting weekends. this is a varied position involving liaison at the highest level. Excellent skills are required (90/60 wpm), aged 27-35. Call HODGE RECRUITMENT (071) 629 8863

£16,000 PA to Personnel Director (90/60 wpm) Superb opp for experienced sec to join prestigious PLC. Assisting with day to day personnel matters, liaising and coordinating at senior management level. Exc prospects for an individual who is highly motivated, articulate and seeking a varied and involved role. Typehouse Rec Cons 071 823 9991

PERSONNEL x 2 - packages - £14,600+£15,500. Leading International Management Consultancy in the City have two positions in Personnel. Both require excellent secretarial skills (audio 60wpm and some shorthand) and sound admin skills. One role specialises in graduate recruitment, the second is a generalist personnel role within expanding department. 'A' levels essential. Age 21-25. To discuss these and a wide range of opportunities in media, publishing, charities and blue-chip companies call Graduate Appointments (Rec Cons) on 071-379 0333.

£15,500 PR Consultants W1 - PA for Joint MD. Exc organisational/ secretarial/ PR experience. Age 25-30ish. 224 6696 Dulcie Simpson Appointments

SECRETARY, 25-35 to work for small team of engineers in SW1. Ultra modern offices, shorthand essential, £15,000 - £17,000 + bonuses. Call Lyn Wilkie on 071-439 7001. Secretaries Plus - The Secretarial Consultants.

SECRETARY for Bank in W1. Age 19-24. Exc skills, pref S/H. legal exp also useful. Salary to £14,000 + exc bens inc mort sub and paid overtime. Call Kudos Rec Cons 071 287 3456

STOCK BROKERS. £15,000. Well presented PA/Sec 23+ with good skills and financial background wanted urgently for this dynamic City firm. Call Christine Watson Ltd. Rec Cons. 071-935 8236/224 6696.

TRAVEL PR £10,000. Bright ambitious young secretary required. Lots of phone contact with top clients and media. Typing press releases, schedules and letters. Good prospects. Send CV to: Emma Moyle. 182-194 Union Street, London SE1.

YACHTING

Luck running out for Gautier as he awaits whim of breeze

By BARRY PICKTHALL
IN NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

TIME and luck was running out last night for Alain Gautier, the French solo yachtsman, in his struggle to return here in time to win the BOC single-handed round the world race. He was pipped to the finish on the last stage of this 27,000-mile marathon early yesterday by Christophe Auguin, whose 60ft French yacht, Groupe Sceta, swept in on the last of the breeze to lay claim to the prize of $100,000 (about £58,150).

Gautier, whose similar yacht, Generali Concorde, had taken up the overall lead since February 18 when John Martin's South African entry, Allied Bank, sank after hitting a growler in the Southern Ocean, began this final 6,000-mile leg from Punta del Este with a 21hr 26min advantage. Auguin's sprint to the finish left the 28-year-old Frenchman with a deadline of 02.37 GMT this morning to retain his hold on the trophy. However, four hours after Auguin's arrival, Gautier was still more than 217 miles from the finish, struggling to better one knot in the fickle breeze.

He must have have rued the day last September when his yacht arrived at Newport late for scrutineering and was given a one-and-a-half-hour penalty. That controversial imposition cost him victory on the first stage of the race to Cape Town, and it now looks as if it may also cost him the first prize. The only consolation then would be if he finishes before 19:07 GMT this evening, he can at least claim the record time for the voyage.

For the moment however, that laurel also goes to Auguin, whose time of 120 days 22 hours 36 minutes to complete the three-stop race, is more than 13 days inside the previous record set by Philippe Jeantot four years ago.

Yesterday, the 30-year-old winner of the leg, put his late success down to a mainsail borrowed from a 60ft catamaran for this last stage of the race which increased sail area by 15 square metres and to the weather routing advice given twice a day by a French meteorologist. "The last three days have been very hard. I have had only two hours sleep each day," the exhausted skipper said on arrival after spending every waking hour urging the last ounce of speed out of his yacht.

Augin: first to finish line

For the first week, there was little to divide the two French rivals, but once in the Trade winds, the extra sail area carried on Groupe Sceta began to pay off. "I began making about seven miles a day and by the Doldrums, had opened up a 100-mile lead," he recalled. Two days before finishing, however, his yacht was knocked down after being caught by a 55-knot squall midway between Bermuda and the finish.

"The mast went right into the water. I was very lucky," Auguin said as both he and Gautier began the countdown to see which has won this classic race.

FINAL STAGE: 1, Groupe Sceta (C Auguin, Fr), 23 days 14hr 11mins. Overall: 120:22:36. Other positions (at 08:00 GMT yesterday with miles to Newport, Rhode Island) Class 1: 2, Generali Concorde (A Gautier, Fr), 217 miles; 3, Credit Agricole (P Jeantot, Fr), 447; 4, Innkeeper (D Adams, Aus), 956; 5, Duracell (M Plant, US), 1,014; 6, Écureuil PC (I Autissier, Fr), 1,055; 7, Grinaker (B Reed, SA), 1,134; 8, Jarkan (K Birtles, Aus), 1,186; 9, BBV Expo '92 (J Ugarte, Sp), 1,210; 10, Alba Regia (N Fa, Hun), 1,258. Class 2: 1, Servant (Y Dupasquier, Fr), 1,195; 2, Buttercup (D McIntyre, Aus), 1,313; 3, New Spirit of Ipswich (J Hall, GB), 1,443; 4, Project City Kids (J Boye, US), 1,536; 5, Sebago (H Roth, US), 2,471. Corinthian class: 1, Global Exposure (R Davis, GB), 2,082; 2, Volcano (P Thackaberry, US), 2,142; 3, Shutendohji (M Saito (Japan), 2,425.

ROUND-THE-WORLD RECORDS

Solo non-stop
First: 1969, Robin Knox-Johnston, 32ft Suhaili (GB), 313 days.
Present record: 1989, Olivier de Kersauson, 75ft trimaran, Un Autre Regard (Fr), 125day 19hr 32min.
Solo circumnavigations with stops
First: 1898, Joshua Slocum, 36ft Spray (US), 3 years 2 months.
1982-3 BOC Challenge: Philippe Jeantot, 56ft Credit Agricole (Fr), 159 days 02hr 26min.
1986-7 BOC Challenge: Philippe Jeantot, 60ft Credit Agricole III (Fr), 134:05:23.
1991-2 BOC Challenge: Christophe Auguin, 60ft Group Sceta (Fr), 120:22:36.

HOCKEY

SA see a chance to make return

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

THERE is a faint chance that South Africa will take part in the hockey event at the Africa Games starting in Cairo on September 20. Should they win it they will qualify automatically for the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona.

The admission of the South African hockey team to the Africa Games however, is dependent on their satisfying the conditions laid down by the International Olympics Committee: that apartheid is abolished and that the South African Hockey Association is completely integrated.

South Africa have never been expelled from the International Hockey Federation, although they lost their vote at the FIH Congress and, because of their apartheid laws, have for many years been excluded from organised competition.

After the Barcelona Olympics, the Hockey Rules Board is expected to act on the views of national associations who, according to George Croft, the secretary, are being asked by letter to state how the game can be made more attractive.

Countries will consider, among other things, the merits of the experimental rule of rolling substitutes, otherwise known as the inter-change. There is also talk of abolishing the offside and obstruction laws.

SQUASH RACKETS

Psychologist plays key role in Opie triumph

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

THE twin triumphs of Lisa Opie and Jahangir Khan in the Hi-Tec British open championships at Wembley were approached from almost exactly opposing experiences reaching back a decade.

Opie's 44-minute 6-9, 9-3, 9-3, 9-4 win over Sue Wright, the 13th seeded giant-killer from Kent, was the seemingly unattainable target through ten years of less than fully rewarded brilliance since she left her father's Guernsey pottery to set up in the professional squash business in Nottingham. It was vitally influenced by ten months of analysis with the sports psychologist, Graham Jones.

Jahangir's increasingly authoritative 94-minute 2-9, 9-4, 9-4, 9-0 control of Jansher Khan, the top-seeded world champion, was his tenth successive win in the game's greatest tournament and a return to supreme fitness that seemed impossible when he broke down in Canada five months ago and talked of retirement.

Hers was the product of an all-English clash which brought the British title home for the first time since the redoubtable Heather McKay defeated Fran Marshall in 1962 to start her 16-year sequence of success and then Antipodean domination continued by New Zealand's Susan Devoy over the last seven years. His was the gift of an all-Pakistani affair that continued the extraordinary saga of a Pathan family now boasting 22 British Open titles between two immediately related generations.

"I wanted this one almost as much as last year's record-breaking ninth title," Jahangir said. "There are now not enough years left for anyone to equal my run before the year 2000. I have to be recorded as the player of the century."

Opie was close to believing she would go down as the 'nearly miss' of the century. She had won virtually everything in the game, including four national championships and a reputation as one of the great female racket technicians. But the big two titles eluded her. This was her fifth British open final and she had lost two world finals.

Opie: No tantrums

Temperament was ever the problem. When the great prizes came within reach, panic and anxiety would take control. Shouts were commonplace, shrieks and swear words frequent, physical gestures and racket chucking never far away.

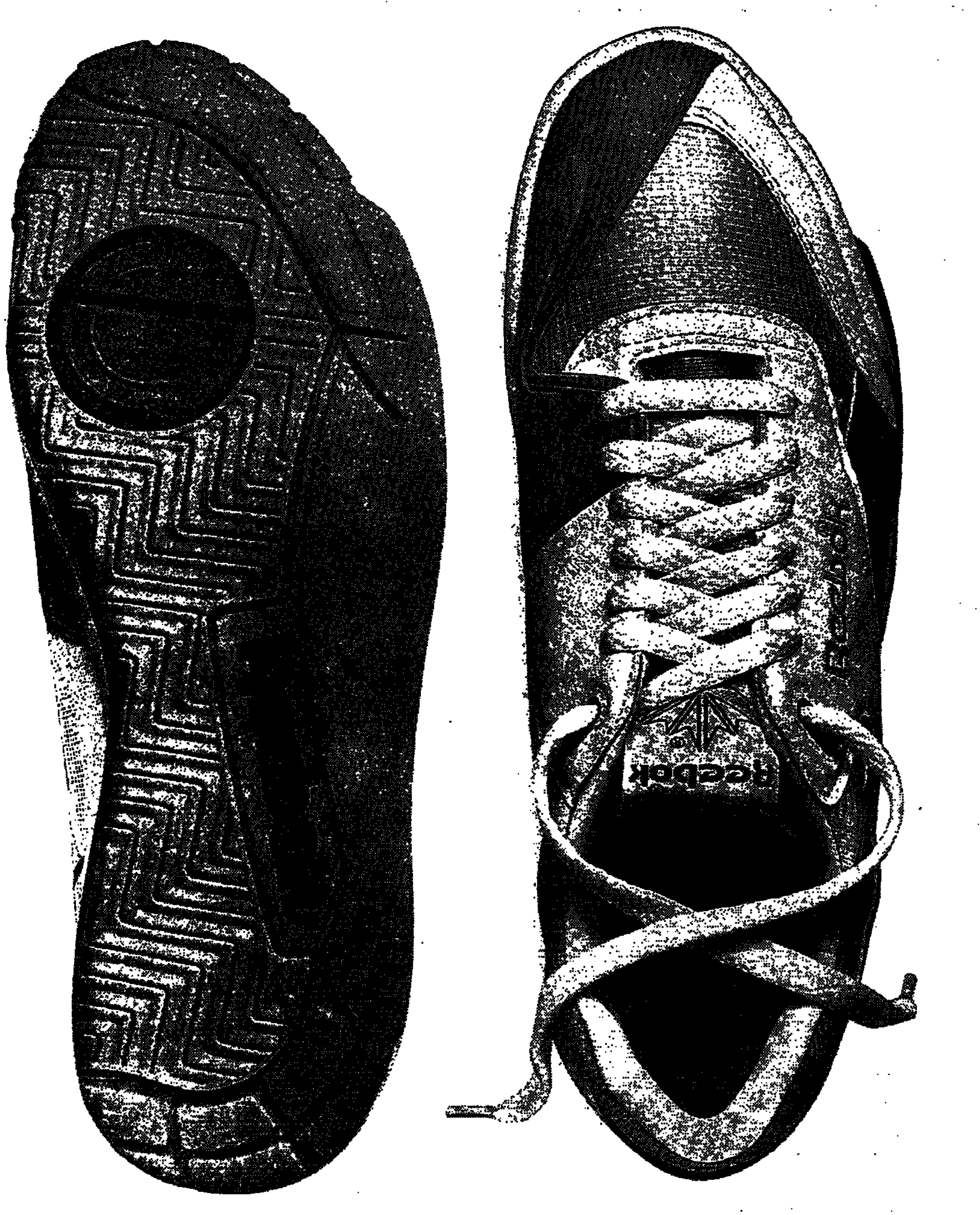
Last July she consulted Jones, a sports psychology lecturer at Loughborough.

Jones reshaped the mental and physical patterns that led to tantrums. "Graham has taught me breathing techniques for controlling panic and relaxation triggers to deal with the anxiety."

Wright's corner was a fever of activity and exultation at Wembley, a stimulus that certainly helped the 20-year-old drive beyond the world numbers one, three and eight on the way to the final. Opie absorbed a terse comments from Jones.

"After I lost the first game he told me to start a new match from 0-0. When I came off 2-1 up I was starting to compose what I would say to the Duke of Edinburgh at the presentation. He gave me a set of breathing exercises to think about instead."

WHAT THE NEWLY CROWNED KING AND QUEEN WEAR AROUND COURT.



Congratulations to Lisa Opie and Jahangir Khan on their triumphs in the British Open Squash Championships.
Reebok
THE EDGE

RACING

Peking Opera earns classical praises after sparkling run

By RICHARD EVANS

MICHAEL Stoute sounded like Gilbert and Sullivan yesterday as he ruled out Opera House from running in the Ever Ready Derby, but produced Peking Opera as a serious contender for the Epsom classic in six weeks' time.

Opera House was 14-1 favourite for the race until injuring a fetlock while exercising three weeks ago. The Newmarket trainer cautioned punters about backing the beautifully bred Sadler's Wells colt following the setback and yesterday ruled him out of the June 5 contest following a brief canter.

"Everything is suspended with him. He definitely won't make the Derby," he said.

Within hours of the decision Stoute had every reason to be dreaming of winning a third Derby following Peking Opera's sparkling win in the Warren Stakes at Kempton.

Despite entering the short straight last of the five runners, Steve Cauthen knew a long way from home the race was his for the taking. Opera House sped past his four rivals to strike the front a furlong and a half out and went on to beat Circus Light by ten lengths.

Victor Chandler was so impressed by the ease and fluency of the victory that he installed the Sheikh Mohammed-owned colt as 16-1 joint favourite behind the 12-1 favourite Marju. William Hill, Coral and Ladbroke all go 25-1.

With the race run in a time almost four seconds slower than average, the form may not amount to too much, but Peking Opera could hardly have won more impressively.

"Steve felt he had it won a long way from home. Peking Opera is well entered. He is a lazy home worker and he surprised me when he was second first time out last season behind Sapieha. He appears to be progressing," the trainer said.

Stoute's horses were calling the tune on more than one classic front yesterday with Mujaazif being heavily backed for the 2,000 Guineas. Although last year's Royal Lodge Stakes winner goes for the Newmarket classic in ten days' time without a run this season, Mujaazif has been cut to 14-1 from 25-1 by William Hill. "He has been pleasing us, which is why we are letting him take his chance."

Stoute will take a decision this morning on Dartrey's participation in the 1,000 Guineas following work on Newmarket's gallops.

Peter Walwyn denied any decision had been taken about Mukaddamah running in the 2,000 Guineas. Speaking after watching Farm Street return to form with a win the Ladbroke Credit Handicap, the Lambourn trainer said he was meeting Sheikh Hamdam Al-Maktoum, the colt's owner, this evening.

Cauthen, who was completing a 65-1 double, is set to ride In The Groove in the Trusthouse Forte Mile at Sandown on Friday. David Elsworth is also hoping to secure the jockey's services for Tetradonna in the 1,000 Guineas. John Williams and Cash Asmussen have been booked to ride Elsworth's two other runners in the fillies' classic, Silver Braid and Zigaura.

No Submission, winner of the Rosebery Handicap at Kempton three weeks ago, again made all to win the competitive Westminster-Motor (Taxi) Insurance City and Suburban Handicap by a length from Minimize.

Charlie Nelson's tough handicapper will now be aimed at the Zetland Gold Cup over Whitsun, provided the ground is not too fast.

Mr Frisk out

MR FRISK will not run in the Whitbread Gold Cup at Sandown on Saturday after disappointing in his work on the Lambourn gallops. Kim Bailey said: "I am not happy with him. He didn't stride out as well as he can and is obviously not 100 per cent."

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

European Cup
Semi-finals, second leg

(First leg scores in brackets)

Red Star Belgrade (2) v Bayern Munich (1) (6.15)
Marseilles (3) v Spartak Moscow (1) (6.30)

European Cup Winners' Cup

Juventus (1) v Barcelona (3) (6.30)
Manchester Utd (3) v Legia Warsaw (1) (8.0)

UEFA Cup
Semi-finals, second leg

Brondby (0) v AS Roma (0) (5.0)
Internazionale (0) v Sporting Lisbon (0) (6.30)

Barclays League
First division

Nottm Forest v Norwich
Tottenham v Everton (7.45)

Second division

Sheffield Wed v Leicester (7.45)
West Ham v Newcastle (7.45)

Third division

Cambridge Utd v Bournemouth (7.45)

Fourth division

Maidstone v Gillingham (8.0)

GM Vauxhall Conference

Barrow v Altrincham
Cheltenham v Welling
Gateshead v Kidderminster

B and Q Scottish League
Premier division

Rangers v Dundee Utd (8.0)

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: First division: Molesey v Worthing. Second division north: Collier Row v Rainham; Edgware v Finchley. Second division south: Feltham v Cove; Ruislip Manor v Newbury. Loctite Cup: Chesham v Aylesbury.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: VS Rugby v Dover (7.45); Wealdstone v Bromsgrove; Weymouth v Atherstone. Midland division: Hinckley v Bedworth. Southern division: Dunstable v Corinthian; Hastings v Hythe; Yate v Canterbury City.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Aston Villa v Leeds (7.0); Liverpool v Rotherham (7.0); Sheffield v Huddersfield; Wolverhampton v Everton (7.0). Second division: Barnsley v Wigan (7.0); Bolton v West Bromwich (7.0); Bradford v Scunthorpe; Grimsby v York (7.0); Mansfield v Middlesbrough (7.0); Port Vale v Notts County (7.0).

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Arsenal v Luton (7.0); Crystal Palace v Tottenham (7.30); Swindon v Millwall (2.0); Watford v Charlton.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: President's Cup: Witton v Bangor City. First division: Whitley Bay v Farsley Celtic.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Darwen v Penrith; Knowsley v Eastwood Hanley.

ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: National division: Abergavenny v Aberystwyth; Briton Ferry v Haverfordwest; Llanelli v Ferndale; Inter Cardiff v Ton Pentre.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Tiverton v Ottery St Mary.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Felixstowe v Haverhill; Histon v Newmarket; Thetford v Braintree.

WEEKLY WYNNER LEAGUE: Premier division: Harrogate Railway v Brigg; Ossett Town v Guiseley.

RUGBY UNION

Heineken Welsh League
Premier division

Pontypridd v Pontypool (7.15)

CRICKET

RAPID CRICKETLINE SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Warwickshire.

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: Embassy world championship (Crucible, Sheffield).

هكذا عن الأصل

هكذا عن الأصل

Kempton mile looks within compass of useful Persianalli

PERSIANALLI should prove capable of winning the Blue Riband Trial Stakes over a mile at Kempton today, even though all of his form so far has been over six furlongs.

The pedigree of this John Gosden-trained three-year-old certainly fans the flame of hope that an additional two furlongs should be well within his scope because he is by Persian Bold, whose stock have got farther than he did when they have been out of stoutly-bred mares.

Being by the dual Arc winner Alleged, Alligatrix, the dam of Persianalli, is just such a mare.

Persianalli has shown no signs of stopping the twice he has won this season, initially on today's track and more recently at Folkestone where he outstayed Sizzling Saga and Poet's Cove to win the Privy Councillor Stakes.

Those who are not prepared to take a chance with his stamina would be well advised to plump for Fair Average rather than Green Desert's son Redden Burn because Fair Average, who is out of a mare by High Line, won easily over today's distance at Leicester last October.

For Walter Swinburn, Persianalli should be the second leg of a double initiated by Reem Albaraari winning the first division of the

MANDARIN

MICHAEL PHILLIPS

Banstead Maiden Stakes. By Sadler's Wells out of that high-class performer Habibti, this beautifully-bred filly ran well enough behind the talented Crystal Gazing at Ascot last September to suggest that even the 510,000 guineas that her owner Sheikh Ahmed Al-Maktoum paid for her was not misspent.

While Swinburn will also be hoping to win the Spring Meeting Fillies' Handicap on Possessive Dancer, who is owned by his mother Doreen, I must go for Lambada Style, who is also unbeaten but much better drawn in a big field for this event on the round course.

By landing a gamble first time out at Warwick, Lambada Style also showed that she could handle a tight track.

Top Of The Bill, who caught my eye at Newmarket eight days ago when finishing fourth in the race won by Operation Wolf, is taken to land the Great Metropolitan Handicap at the expense of Army of Stars and Firetop.

Elsewhere, Pat Eddery looks to have a sound chance of landing a double on Tibrack (2.15) and Shafouri (4.45) at Catterick Bridge, where Diamond Mine is napped to win the Richmond Stakes in the care of his owner Peter Savill's retained jockey, Kevin Darley.

Having won well at Warwick before running the easy Doncaster winner Certain Risk to a neck at Ripon, Try Leguard, from Wally Carter's Epsom stable, should help to ensure that there is some lively betting in the ring beforehand.

But I am quite content to go for Diamond Mine, who has won nicely at Carlisle and Beverley the twice he has raced in public this spring.

Over the jumps at Perth, I fancy the chance of Farmer's In in the Velux Amateur Riders' Handicap Chase.

Already the winner of his only race at Doncaster this season, this Charlie Brooks-trained five-year-old has not been sent on the long and expensive journey to Scotland from Lambourn simply to improve his health.

Point-to-point

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Cotswold, Andoversford, six miles east of Cheltenham (first race, 5.15); South Devon, Haldon, 8m SW of Exeter (5.00); Teme Valley, Brampton Bryan, 10m W of Ludlow (4.00).

Blinkered first time

CATTERICK BRIDGE: 3.15 Winged Whisper. 3.45 Asturias. 4.15 Golden General, Hot Sunday Sport.

PERTH

MANDARIN

2.15 Edward Lear. 2.45 Farmer's In. 3.15 Souter's Hill. 3.45 Clever Folly. 4.15 Vintage Velvet. 4.45 A Friend Of Mine. 5.15 He Who Dares Wins.

THUNDERER

2.15 Wake Up. 2.45 Farmer's In. 3.15 Souter's Hill. 3.45 Boutzdaroff. 4.15 Judgment Day. 4.45 A Friend Of Mine. 5.15 Val's Chat.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

2.15 SCOTT OSWALD CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,553: 2m) (22 runners)

1	0620	BELDINE 25 (D,F,S) P Monteith 6-11-11	L O'Hara
2	16	EDWARD LEAR 5F (D,F) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-11	W Dwan (7)
3	5P22	HOCKLEY 16 (D,BF,S) G Richards 7-11-10	N Doughty
4	432U	WAKE UP 7F (D,S) R O'Leary 4-11-10	L Wyer
5	00-F	ROARK 13 (D,S) Miss L Bower 9-11-5	S Hodgson (5)
6	3350	LE JOUEUR 12F Mrs P Barker 4-11-5	C Hawkins
7	R00R	AHSANTA SANA 11S (D,F) R Lamb 5-11-3	R Garritty
8	/400	YOUNG COMMANDER 9F (B) B McLean 7-11-3	T Reed
9	121/-	REALLY HONEST 986 (D,F,G) M W Easterby 10-11-2	P Niven
10	-P21	RIVER KINGDOM 8 (D,F,S) J Pearce 8-11-2	J McLaughlin
11	126-	SARMIA SOUND 331 (CD,G) A Whillans 6-11-2	G Thomson (7)
12	0-P0	ALLGALLO 47 (F) C Parker 7-11-0	K Doolan
13	/0-0	DUTCH AUCTION 23 W Barker 7-11-0	D Wilkinson
14	0	WATTLE SYKE 18 L Lungo 4-10-13	G McCourt
15	3304	J R JONES 23 (D,G) D Burchell 4-10-12	D J Burchell
16	0000	JASMIN PATH 89 (D,G) O Brennan 6-10-11	M Brennan
17	05/5	CAPRICORN BLUE 43 W Barker 8-10-10	G Harker
18	00P/	HYDARNES 781 J Birkett 8-10-10	—
19	/422	NORTHERN GUNNER 14 (D,BF,G) M Robinson 8-10-10	J White
20	-0F0	BELLA BANUS 8 (D,G,S) J Birkett 8-10-9	J O'Gorman (3)
21	00	AVOCA GIRL 194 W A Stephenson 5-10-5	C Grant
22		FOREVER DIAMONDS 6F J S Wilson 4-10-5	P Scudamore

7-2 Hockley, 5-1 Wake Up, 11-2 Beldine, 8-1 Edward Lear, 10-1 River Kingdom, 12-1 Northern Gunner, 16-1 Allgallo, Roark, 20-1 others.

2.45 VELUX HANDICAP CHASE (Amateurs: £3,076: 2m 4f) (9)

1	F43F	WORTHY KNIGHT 58 (D,F,G,S) B McLean 10-12-0	S R Andrews (3)
2	1115	PYJAMAS 16 (CD,F,G) G Richards 10-11-13	R Hale (7)
3	6341	MASNOON 8 (D,F,G,S) J Eyre 8-11-12 (6ex)	P Looker (7)
4	0-1	FARMER'S IN 88 (D,G) C Brooks 5-11-5	M Armytage
5	3F54	INTERIM LIB 16 (S) Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-7	J Bradburne (5)
6	4242	CLARES OWN 23 (F) J Wade 7-10-1	S Swiers
7	2F4P	STAN'S FOLLY 63 (F) S Payne 10-10-0	Miss J Thurlow (7)
8	5F00	STARJESTIC 23 (F,G,S) Mrs P Barker 13-10-0	J Waymes (7)
9	31D0	IN THE BREEZE 8 (F) P Blockley 10-10-0	S Walker (7)

3-1 Pyjamas, 100-30 Farmer's In, 4-1 Masnoon, 11-2 Worthy Knight, 8-1 Clares Own, Interim Lib, 25-1 others.

3.15 HILLTOWN PROPERTY COMPANY LTD NOVICES HURDLE (£2,302: 2m) (16)

1	1152	SOUTER'S HILL 21F (D,G) T Craig 11-7	C Hawkins
2	53F0	ALOSAILI 11F B Stevens 10-12	G McCourt
3	D	EASTERN PLEASURE 154 O Brennan 10-12	M Brennan
4	4025	EDWARD SEYMOUR 12 S Mellor 10-12	M Perrett
5	6350	KEY DEAR 46 Mrs S Bradburne 10-12	Mr J Bradburne
6	P	KISU KALI 46 C Brooks 10-12	P Scudamore
7		PREOBLAKENSKY 265F G Richards 10-12	N Doughty
8	066	QUICK TEMPO 8 Mrs S Bradburne 10-12	R Fahey
9		RAPID MOVER 21F J Kinane 10-12	D Nolan
10		REGAL THATCH 208F G Richards 10-12	M Moloney (5)
11	600	SHARP CHALLENGE 16 J Wade 10-12	K Jones
12	050	VIRBAZAR 22 Mrs S Bramall 10-12	J O'Gorman (3)
13	6003	WEST WITH THE WIND 16F J Johnson 10-12	A Orkney
14	0	GOLDEN DELLA 15F D Moffatt 10-7	D J Moffatt (7)
15		LOCH GLOW C Alexander 10-7	S Turner
16	000	PIERS DELIGHT 32 B Wilkinson 10-7	G Harker

3-1 Souter's Hill, 7-2 Edward Seymour, 7-1 Alosaili, 8-1 West With The Wind, 10-1 Kisu Kali, Preoblakensky, 14-1 others.

3.45 R M C CATHERWOOD LTD LITTLE BAY HANDICAP CHASE (£3,817: 2m) (5)

1	F343	BOUTZDAROFF 6 (D,BF,F,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-12-0	M Dwyer
2	41U6	GREENHEART 18 (D,F,G) W A Stephenson 8-11-7	C Grant
3	54P2	CLEVER FOLLY 8 (V,D,F,S) G Richards 11-11-2	N Doughty
4	162P	GENERAL CHANDOS 18 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 10-10-12	Mr J Bradburne
5	4F34	GALA LOCH 117 (D,S) S Payne 7-10-0	R Supple

2-1 Clever Folly, 9-4 Greenheart, 11-4 Boutzdaroff, 5-1 General Chandos, 33-1 Gala Loch.

4.15 FESTIVAL MAIDEN CHASE (Div I: £2,388: 3m) (12)

1	PP46	ARROW VALLEY LAD 23 C Trietline 6-11-9	R Marley
2	2PP5	BRUSHFORD 28 J Wade 7-11-9	K Jones
3	/040	GEEBEETEEVEE 41 Mrs S Austin 10-11-9	D Wilkinson
4	2426	JUDGMENT DAY 42 P Hobbs 9-11-9	C Maude (3)
5	0-00	KING SPRING 88 C Parker 6-11-9	N Doughty
6	P4P	LOCAL CUSTOMER 16 M Hammond 6-11-9	P Niven
7	00P0	OFF THE BRU 16 Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-9	Mr J Bradburne
8	0/PP	SURPRISE STAR 23 P Blockley 8-11-9	K Doolan
9	3P32	VINTAGE VELVET 11 K Bailey 9-11-9	I Lawrence
10	43U5	DISTANT CHERRY 23 (B) D Lee 6-11-4	R Marley
11	PP-P	LUCY'S BRIG 60 T Dun 7-11-4	T Reed
12	6P06	SWEET THURSDAY 11 (B) B Stevens 5-10-9	M Stevens (7)

4-6 Judgement Day, 6-1 Local Customer, 8-1 Brushford, Vintage Velvet, 14-1 Distant Cherry, 20-1 Arrow Valley Lad, 25-1 others.

4.45 PERTHSHIRE DRAG HUNT HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,721: 2m 4f) (15)

1	0060	TIMMINION 19 (CD,F,G,S) A Stringer 9-11-12	J J Quinn
2	F345	TREE POPPY 4 (D,S) C Brooks 6-11-12	P Scudamore
3	4110	THREEOUTOFFOUR 8 (G,S) O Brennan 8-10-13	M Brennan
4	481F	KAMBALDA RAMBLER 23 (S) C Parker 7-10-9	N Doughty
5	14-R	SUPER TRIX 221 (D,BF,F) G Richards 8-10-8	G McCourt
6	-241	A FRIEND OF MINE 4 (D,F) M Tompkins 5-10-6 (6ex)	S Smith Eccles
7	P043	FISTFUL OF BUCKS 25 (C,G,S) C Weedon 5-10-2	R Fahey
8	0016	REEF LARK 23 (S) J Hellens 6-10-2	A Orkney
9	00-6	WARGAME 22 (F,G,S) A Bailey 11-10-1	Mr M Buckley (7)
10	F045	JANE'S JOY 39 (D,F) Mrs G Reveley 6-10-0	P Niven
11	-460	HIGH RANGE 4 (S) K Bailey 8-10-0	I Lawrence
12	P/P	SCOTTISH SIMBIR 16 (D,G,S) W Crawford 11-10-0	L O'Hara
13	0304	ROMAN DUSK 23 (D,F,G,S) B Wilkinson 11-10-0	D Byrne
14	F034	JURANSTAN 8 (B) C Trietline 8-10-0	R Marley
15	/P-4	THE RANNOCH 4 (S) J J O'Neill 8-10-0	F Murtagh (7)

9-4 A Friend Of Mine, 100-30 Timminion, 8-1 Fistful Of Bucks, 12-1 Jane's Joy, Threeoutofour, 14-1 Tree Poppy, 16-1 others.

5.15 FESTIVAL MAIDEN CHASE (Div II: £2,368: 3m) (11)

1	F30P	AH JIM LAD 41 P Monteith 7-11-9	L O'Hara
2	P3P2	BEECHMOUNT LAD 23 C Trietline 7-11-9	R Supple
3	0/P0	GOLDEN POP 50 J Gledson 9-11-9	Miss J Thurlow
4	0F22	HE WHO DARES WINS 23 (B) W A Stephenson 8-11-9	C Grant
5	P33F	HOLY SHOW 119 Miss L Bower 10-11-9	S Hodgson (5)
6	F04P	KNOWE HEAD 41 J Johnson 7-11-9	A Orkney
7	2-66	ROYAL TRIBUTE 23 N Chamberlain 6-11-9	P Niven
8	4000	SOTHEBY SOUND 63 W Barker 7-11-9	G Harker
9	0-52	VAL'S CHAT 8 M Robinson 7-11-9	J White
10	4000	WHEELIES NEWMEMBER 8 Mrs A Hamilton 8-11-9	Miss P Robson (7)
11	PPP/	BEN'S BIRTHDAY 1084 P Beaumont 7-11-4	P A Farrell

13-8 He Who Dares Wins, 11-2 Val's Chat, 6-1 Royal Tribute, 8-1 Beechmount Lad, 10-1 Holy Show, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Jimmy Fitzgerald, 6 winners from 15 runners, 40.0%; C Weedon, 3 from 10, 30.0%; P Beaumont, 3 from 11, 27.3%; W A Stephenson, 30 from 119, 25.2%; Mrs G Reveley, 8 from 33, 24.2%; D Burchell, 6 from 25, 24.0%.

JOCKEYS: G McCourt, 7 winners from 22 rides, 31.8%; M Dwyer, 18 from 63, 28.6%; D J Burchell, 6 from 21, 28.6%; J J Quinn, 4 from 18, 22.2%; N Doughty, 17 from 78, 21.8%; R Garritty, 5 from 23, 21.7%.

(Not including yesterday's results)

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S TWO MEETINGS

Kempton Park

Going: good

2.00 (5f) 1, MYKINDOFMUSIC (T Williams, 20-1); 2, Duty Sergeant (J Williams, 25-1); 3, Over Sharp (A Munro, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 5 fav Mighty Lady (4th), 13-2 Ponte Cervo, 7 Elysian Sprite, 8 Creche, She's Special, 10 Lady Linnet, 12 Joe From Monaco, X My Heart, 14 Systematic (6th), 25 Gemini Bay, Taunan Royale, Penny Drops (5th). 15 ran. NR: Energic, Goewin. 1½l, nk, hd, 2½l, 1l. M Haynes at Epsom. Tote: £48.80; £8.90, £14.70, £2.70. DF (1st or 2nd with any other): £14.10. CSF: £390.59. 1min 01.58sec.

2.35 (1m 4f) 1, PEKING OPERA (S Cauthen, 5-1); 2, Circus Light (L Piggott, 100-30); 3, Sea Level (J Reid, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Fly Away Soon (4th), 13-2 Matahif (5th). 5 ran. 10l, 5l, 3l, 15l. M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £6.30; £2.70, £1.50. DF: £7.50. CSF: £18.70. 2min 34.40sec.

3.10 (1m) 1, JOLI'S PRINCESS (W Carson, 10-1); 2, Himiko (M Hills, 12-1); 3, Sumonda (G Carter, 4-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Ausherra (4th), 11-2 Exclusive Virtue, 7 Crimson Conquest, 10 Joie De Soir, 11 Positive Acclaim (6th), 14 Maraatib, 20 Love Of The Arts (5th), Venus Observed, Idol Mio. 12 ran. Nk, 2½l, ¾l, 1½l, sh hd. M Ryan at Newmarket. Tote: £9.00; £2.90, £6.70, £1.70. DF: £29.80. CSF: £111.60. 1min 41.20sec.

3.40 (1m 2f) 1, NO SUBMISSION (D Holland, 8-1); 2, Minimize (L Dettori, 8-1); 3, Lord Of Tusmore (M Hills, 11-2). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Operation Wolf (6th), 7 Hateel, 10 Helston Prince, 14 Douleb's Image, 16 Jehol, Johns Joy, Eire Leath-Sceal (5th), 20 Stipral, You Know The Rules (4th), 25 Knock Knock, 33 Express Account. 14 ran. NR: Linpac West. 1l, 2½l, ½l, sh hd, ¾l. C Nelson at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £12.40; £5.20, £2.60, £2.70. DF: £77.00. CSF: £65.24. Tricast: £351.70. 2min 06.03sec.

4.10 (7f) 1, FARM STREET (S Cauthen, 10-1); 2, Sleepline Fantasy (J Quinn, 7-1); 3, Super Benz (J Fanning, 14-1); 4, Just A Step (J Reid, 3-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 10 Odilex (6th), Annabelle Royale (5th), 12 Gulmarg, 14 Restore, Brother Ray, 16 Nordic Brave, Lady Lacey, 20 Prince Jakatom, Faynaz, Korypheos, 25 Masnun, Nioquita, 33 Vent De Mer. 17 ran. NR: Hymn Of Harlech. 1l, sh hd, nk, ½, 2. P Walwyn at Lambourn. Tote: £9.50; £2.30, £2.10, £2.70, £1.10. DF: £23.50. CSF: £75.18. Tricast: £915.03. 1min 26.78sec.

4.40 (7f) 1, SURREY RACING (W Carson, 3-1 fav); 2, Highland Magic (T Quinn, 20-1); 3, Paper Dart (L Dettori, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 9 Access Holidays, 10 Reed Bed (6th), 12 Daisy Brioche, Stamford Bridge, 14 Wicked Things, Ikteshaf, 16 Designer Stubble, 20 Alton Bay, Northern Flyer (4th), Nai Ham (5th), Jarzon Dancer. 14 ran. NR: Lallapalooza, Digs. 3l, ¾l, 3½l, 3l, 2l. G Lewis at Epsom. Tote: £3.10; £2.20, £4.40, £1.10. DF: £35.80. CSF: £58.65. Tricast: £215.44.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £35,309.25 carried over to Kempton today).

Placepot: £88.80.

Perth

Going: good to firm

3.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Polar Region (M Dwyer, 6-4 fav, Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Ghia Gneuiagh (7-2); 3, Silk Degrees (11-1). 17 ran. NR: Gale's Pride. 1l, 3l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £2.50; £1.70, £1.70, £3.90. DF: £4.30. CSF: £8.75.

3.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Smooth Style (P Scudamore, 7-4 fav); 2, Scottish Reform (14-1); 3, Europe Point (9-2). 17 ran. NR: Celtic Bunnie. Hd, 15l. C Brooks. Tote: £2.60; £1.20, £2.20, £1.80. DF: £11.70. CSF: £28.92.

4.00 (3m ch) 1, J-J-HENRY (Mrs A Farrell, 4-1); 2, Kirsty's Boy (8-1); 3, Gay Moore (10-1). River House 7-2 fav. 9 ran. NR: Harley. ¾l, 12l. P Beaumont. Tote: £5.40; £1.40, £1.80, £3.90. DF: £22.20. CSF: £31.32. Tricast: £264.40.

4.30 (2m hdle) 1, Arctic Skylight (N Doughty, 10-1); 2, Bay Tern (8-1); 3, Cheswold (12-1). First Crack, Times Are Hard 3-1 jt-fav. 13 ran. NR: Obelaid. 6l, nk. G Richards. Tote: £6.40; £2.50, £1.70, £5.90. DF: £28.00. CSF: £90.05. Tricast: £880.50.

5.00 (2m ch) 1, Jinxy Jack (N Doughty, 11-10 fav); 2, Lynemore (8-1); 3, Mellcus (5-2). 8 ran. 6l, 3l. G Richards. Tote: £2.10; £1.30, £1.20, £1.50. DF: £4.00. CSF: £5.10.

5.30 (2m hdle) 1, Robert Dear (S Smith Eccles, 4-5 fav); 2, March Ahead (11-4); 3, Master Of the House (25-1). 18 ran. NR: Dancing Days, Self Important. 7l, sh hd. M Tompkins. Tote: £2.00; £1.30, £1.60, £1.70. DF: £2.50. CSF: £3.98.

6.00 (3m hdle) 1 The Demon Barber (Mr R Hale, 11-2 jt-fav); 2 Rare Luck (14-1); 3, Celtic Sport (11-2 jt-fav). Valiant Dash 11-2 jt-fav. 15 ran. NR: Cop For That. 2, 10l. G Richards. Tote: £8.40; £2.00, £3.90, £3.30. DF: £35.70. CSF: £74.38. Tricast: £389.24.

Placepot: not availble

☐ Haydock Park's meeting on May 4 has been cancelled because of the poor condition of the track. Course officials are blaming cold weather on the failure of grass to grow back on parts of the recently redrained Flat course.

☐ A change in the management of Doncaster racecourse is likely to be given the go-ahead next month. The course owners Doncaster Borough Council is planning to go into partnership with the construction company A F Budge Ltd.

☐ PAT Eddery landed a double at Maisons-Laffitte yesterday with Nine Carat in the Prix Montenica and Eightsome, who beat Reinstate by a short neck in the Prix Sir Galahad.

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MANDARIN	THUNDERER	MICHAEL SEELY
2.00 Reem Albaraari.	2.00 Tantina.	3.00 ARMY OF STARS (nap).
2.30 Calvanne Miss.	2.30 Craft Express.	4.00 Parios.
3.00 Top Of The Bill.	3.00 Army Of Stars.	4.30 Scared Stiff.
3.30 Persianalli.	3.30 Persianalli.	
4.00 Parios.	4.00 PARIOS (nap).	
4.30 Lambada Style.	4.30 Elfasiah.	
5.00 Nashaat.	5.00 Nashaat.	

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 ARMY OF STARS (nap). 3.30 Persianalli.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 BANSTEAD MAIDEN STAKES (Div I: 3-Y-O: £2,905: 7f) (16 runners)

101	(6)		COTTON BANK (E Whalmough) P Butler 9-0	W Ryan	—
102	(13)	4-	DAYS OF THUNDER 219 (M Francis) M Francis 9-0	S Whitworth	98
103	(2)	54-	LINCHMERE LAD 184 (Daram International Ltd) Lady Herries 9-0	A Clark	90
104	(5)	0	LORD HIGH ADMIRAL 19 (Kennet Valley Ltd) Lord Huntingdon 9-0	L Dettori	89
105	(1)	4	PHARLY STORY 15 (E Goodwin) P Cole 9-0	T Quinn	—
106	(10)	4300-00	POWERFUL PIERRE 11 (J L'Heureux) L Holt 9-0	A McGlone	74
107	(4)		ROCK LEGEND (J Sheehan) M Haynes 9-0	J Williams	—
108	(8)		SAVOYARD (Lady Butt) M Jarvis 9-0	A Munro	—
109	(12)	0-0	SNOW BLIZZARD 23 (M Kentish) S Dow 9-0	G Carter	—
110	(15)	423-	CAROLES EXPRESS 166 (Mrs S Crane) R Akehurst 8-9	J Reid	91
111	(9)	0-0	NAJAAH 7 (H Al-Maktoum) R Armstrong 8-9	W Carson	—
112	(16)	0-	PENTRIDGE 200 (Lady McIndoe) G Lewis 8-9	Paul Eddery	—
113	(14)	35-	REEM ALBARAARI 209 (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) M Stoute 8-9	W R Swinburn	● 99
114	(11)		TAUTINA (Morven Stud Ltd) A Scott 8-9	B Raymond	—
115	(7)	000-304	TOM'S ARCTIC DREAM 11 (T Staddon) W Williams 8-9	A Tucker (5)	90
116	(8)	04-0	USHBA 23 (Mrs S Stovold) M Usher 8-9	J Kennedy	94

BETTING: 15-8 Reem Albaraari, 4-1 Pharly Story, 8-1 Lord High Admiral, 10-1 Linchmere Lad, Savoyard, Tautina, 12-1 Caroles Express, 14-1 Days Of Thunder, 16-1 others.

1990: BENAZIR 8-9 J Reid (11-4) W Jarvis 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

DAYS OF THUNDER 1l 4th to Regent's Folly at Leicester (7f, good to firm). LINCHMERE LAD 4l 4th to Mulciber at Folkestone (7f, good to firm).
LORD HIGH ADMIRAL 13l 5th to Soleil Dancer over 1m (good to soft) here. PHARLY STORY, said to have been working well prior to debut, 17½l 4th to Parley at Pontefract (1m, good to soft). CAROLES EXPRESS 8l 3rd to Rashik at Doncaster (6f, good). NAJAAH 13l 11th to Pastorale at Newmarket (7f, good to firm). REEM ALBARAARI, by Sadler's Wells out of flying filly Habibti, 4¼l 3rd to Crystal Gazing at Ascot (6f, good to firm). TOM'S ARCTIC DREAM 11l 4th to Plaiz at Warwick (1m, good to firm).
Selection: REEM ALBARAARI

2.30 MINORU HANDICAP (£3,990: 6f) (22 runners)

201	(9)	00050-0	SWISS AFFAIR 7 (F) (M Obaida) A Scott 4-10-0	B Raymond	90
202	(15)	102-110	TAUBER 13 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Reed) Pat Mitchell 7-9-12	S O'Gorman (3)	97
203	(7)	102122-	FINJAN 214 (D,F) (H Al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 4-9-8	W Carson	91
204	(8)	221080	RESPECTABLE JONES 19 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs E Weinstein) G Balding 5-9-6	J Williams	96
205	(18)	00-3225	CRAFT EXPRESS 7 (D,G) (Mrs V Rowland) M Johnston 5-9-5	R P Elliott	96
206	(17)	234015-	MACS MAHARANEE 197 (D,F,G) (Yorkshire Racing Club) P Felgate 4-9-3	W Ryan	92
207	(2)	620065-	SHIKARI'S SON 201 (F) (Alan Spargo Ltd) J White 4-9-1	T Lang	91
208	(13)	01030-0	IKSAB 19 (D,F,S) (A Fouskid) R Boss 4-9-1	L Dettori	92
209	(16)	036020-	DARAKAH 168 (F) (C Hill) C Hill 4-9-0	G Duffield	93
210	(6)	144-010	FARMER JOCK 11 (CD,F,S) (Mrs N Macauley) Mrs N Macauley 9-8-12	M Roberts	98
211	(5)	008051	PLEASANT EXHIBIT 7 (B,D,F) (J Bethell) J Bethell 4-8-11 (6ex)	R Hills	96
212	(19)	430506	YOUNG SHADOWFAX 7 (D,F) (A Irish) C Allen 4-8-10	M Tebbutt	90
213	(22)	60000-0	LUNA BID 7 (CD,F,G,S) (M Blanshard) M Blanshard 8-8-10	J Reid	● 99
214	(12)	041401-	ALNASRIC PETE 127 (F) (A Speyer) D Wilson 5-8-7	G Carter	92
215	(1)	0010-22	CRONK'S COURAGE 19 (B,D,BF,F,S) (Cronk Ltd) G Lewis 5-8-5	Paul Eddery	94
216	(11)	62320-0	BAYSHAM 19 (B) (W Butt) B Millman 5-8-3	R Price (5)	90
217	(6)	165080-	JOKIST 163 (CD,F,G,S) (W Robertson) W Jarvis 8-7-12	J Quinn	93
218	(21)	103300-	AMETHYSTINE 225 (F) (J Mursell) R Hodges 5-7-11	A McGlone	92
219	(14)	285-411	ZINBAQ 23 (D,G,S) (Mrs R Baker) C Benstead 5-7-10	B Doyle (5)	93
220	(10)	3-02503	AIR NYMPH 19 (Mrs E Hayles) C C Elsey 4-7-9	Dale Gibson	95
221	(20)	400211-	CALVANNE MISS 183 (D,F,G) (C Hill) C Hill 5-7-8	N Adams	93
222	(4)	06225-0	JOHN O'DREAMS 9 (Mrs A Pulham) Miss J Thorne 6-7-7	A Mackay	94

Long handicap: John O'Dreams 7-6.

BETTING: 4-1 Finjan, 9-2 Cronk's Courage, 5-1 Pleasant Exhibit, 6-1 Craft Express, 8-1 Shikari's Son, 10-1 Amethystine, Macs Maharanee, 12-1 Respectable Jones, Tauber, 16-1 others.

1990: FRIMLEY PARKSON 5-8-0 G Carter (8-1) P Arthur 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

TAUBER beat RESPECTABLE JONES (3lb better off) 1½l at Lingfield (6f, AW) on penultimate start with CRAFT EXPRESS (2lb worse off) short head 3rd. FINJAN head 2nd to Piquant at Ayr (6f, soft).
MACS MAHARANEE beat Langtry Lass 1l at Yarmouth (6f, good to firm). DARAKAH 2½l 2nd to Daring Times at Newmarket (7f, good). FARMER JOCK beat CRONK'S COURAGE (6lb better off) 4l over course and distance (good to soft), with AIR NYMPH (8lb better off) 2½l 3rd, RESPECTABLE JONES 4½l 7th, BAYSHAM 2l 9th and IKSAB last of 18. PLEASANT EXHIBIT beat Our Fan ¾l at Pontefract (6f, good to firm) with CRAFT EXPRESS (6lb better off) 2l 5th, YOUNG SHADOWFAX (6lb better off) 1½l 6th, SWISS AFFAIR 11th and LUNA BID 13th. ALNASRIC PETE beat Sunset Reins Free 1½l at Southwell (AW, 1m, standard). JOKIST ½l 3rd to Cee-En-Cee over 7f (good) here with ZINBAQ (18lb worse off) short head. ZINBAQ beat Cronk's Quality 2½l at Nottingham (6f, good). CALVANNE MISS beat Castle Cary a head at Chepstow (6f, good to firm).
Selection: TAUBER

3.00 GREAT METROPOLITAN HANDICAP (£5,959: 1m 4f) (16 runners)

301	(16)	310211-	KALMADENE 228 (CD,F,S) (Mrs A Kidd) P Cole 4-10-0	T Quinn	95
302	(11)	212410-	KAHER 207 (D,F) (F Kalla) A Stewart 4-9-13	M Roberts	91
303	(4)	204354/	SPRING HAY 41J (A Saeed) D Nicholson 5-9-11	J Williams	—
304	(9)	53/11-	SULTAN'S SON 357 (D,F) (F Salman) P Cole 5-9-11	A Simpson (7)	91
305	(2)	29020-0	FIRE TOP 23 (C,F,G) (Mrs A Valentine) R Akehurst 6-9-10	R Cochrane	95
306	(13)	31/6300-	CASTLE COURAGEOUS 208 (F) (Lady Mary Mumford) Lady Herries 4-9-7	J Reid	98
307	(10)	50842-2	ARMY OF STARS 14 (F,G,S) (Army Of Stars Partnership) C Brittain 6-8-13	L Dettori	● 99
308	(14)	0310-	CHOIR MASTER 287 (G) (Sheikh Mohammed) W Hern 4-8-13	W R Swinburn	96
309	(8)	453-	LUTHIOR 43J (D,F) (T Painting) R Simpson 5-8-11	A Tucker (5)	97
310	(6)	60/0815-	CASTORET 167 (S) (Lady D'Avigdor-Goldsmid) J Hills 5-8-8	M Hills	97
311	(12)	3342-38	ROSGILL 64 (F) (Brigadier Racing) P Mitchell 5-8-3	Paul Eddery	98
312	(1)	01/0-03	MY CHIARA 9 (D,F) (J Pitt) M Usher 5-8-1	C Rutter	97
313	(3)	53106-4	TOP OF THE BILL 8 (F,G) (F Golding) N Callaghan 4-8-0	A Munro	96
314	(5)	551100-	MAHRAJAN 173 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs F Harris) C Benstead 7-7-13	W Carson	97
315	(15)	0/6630/	HARREEK 412J (G) (Mrs S Purcell) M Madgwick 6-7-13	J Quinn	—
316	(7)	00/00-01	MILTON BURN 19 (CD,F,G,S) (A Richards) C Austin 10-7-7	B Doyle (5)	92

Long handicap: Milton Burn 6-13.

BETTING: 15-8 Sultan's Son, 7-2 Kalmadene, 4-1 Choir Master, 6-1 Kaher, 8-1 Army Of Stars, 14-1 Castle Courageous, 16-1 others.

1990: EMPIRE BLUE 7-10-0 T Quinn (8-1) P Cole 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

KALMADENE beat Bamish 2l over course and distance (good) with MAHRAJAN never nearer 12l 10th. KAHER beat High Fountain 2½l at Wolverhampton (1m 4f 100yd, firm). SPRING HAY has excellent claims here if returning to form of when 4¾l 3rd to Cacoethes in the group II King Edward VII Stakes at Ascot (1m 4f, firm) in June 1989. Failed to reproduce that form in two subsequent starts. SULTAN'S SON beat Carmagnole 10l at Ascot (1m 4f, good to firm). ARMY OF STARS 2l 2nd to Just My Bill at Ripon (1m 4f 70yd, soft). CHOIR MASTER beat Vital Clue 1½l at Windsor (1m 2f 22yd, good). ROSGILL 5½l 3rd to Qualitair Aviator at Lingfield (AW, 1m 5f, standard). TOP OF THE BILL 7¾l 4th to Operation Wolf at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm).
Selection: CHOIR MASTER

CATTERICK BRIDGE

MANDARIN	THUNDERER
2.15 Tibrack.	2.15 Everglades.
2.45 Welsh Secret.	2.45 Banham College.
3.15 DIAMOND MINE (nap).	3.15 Try Leguard.
3.45 Premier Princess.	3.45 Pharoah's Guest.
4.15 La Pereet.	4.15 Corporate Type.
4.45 Shafouri.	4.45 Runaway Lad.
5.15 Wild Prospect.	5.15 Dreams Eyes.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.45 Shafouri.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.45 SECRET HAZE.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM *DRAW: 5F-7F, LOW NUMBERS BEST* SIS

2.15 SEDBURY MAIDEN STAKES (£2,668: 7f) (11 runners)

1	(5)	2/6	THRESHFIELD 22 (Curley Credit Bookmaking) B Curley 5-9-10	T D'Arcy (7)	81
2	(11)	000600-	NAFFLION 314 (Miss P Kissock-Smith) R Peacock 5-9-5	G Husband (5)	—
3	(3)	6-6	OUR TOPSIE 23 (M Kelly) H Collingridge 4-9-5	V Smith	86
4	(10)	0-	BLUES BALIDAR 211 (M Hewlett) J Spearing 3-8-10	D Nicholls	—
5	(8)	40-4	EVERGLADES 13 (A Oppenheimer) G Wragg 3-8-10	W Newnes	97
6	(7)	00	KING OF CHANCE 12 (N De Savary) Mrs J Ramsden 3-8-10	A Cruz	76
7	(2)		LEGUARD EXPRESS (J Devaney) W Carter 3-8-10	T Williams	—
8	(9)	0-	PERU 179 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Watts 3-8-10	Dean McKeown	—
9	(6)		TIBRACK (Prince Khalid Al Saud) H Cecil 3-8-10	Pat Eddery	—
10	(1)	400-	SHIMMERING SCARLET 197 (T Cox) T Barron 3-8-5	Alex Greaves (3)	● 99
11	(4)	00-	SOUL INTENT 225 (Mrs F Bentley) W Bentley 3-8-5	J Bleasdale	—

BETTING: 6-4 Tibrack, 9-4 Everglades, 5-1 Shimmering Scarlet, 6-1 Peru, 12-1 Threshfield, 14-1 King Of Chance, 16-1 Our Topsie, 20-1 others.

1990: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

2.45 ASPIRING JOCKEYS APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£2,831: 5f) (13 runners)

1	(6)	280000-	HENRY WILL 193 (C,F,G,S) (G Leggott) T Fairhurst 7-10-0	J Fanning	86
2	(1)	020010-	KABCAST 210 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs M Marshall) D Chapman 6-9-11	S Haworth (5)	91
3	(8)	/0/200-3	BANHAM COLLEGE 4 (J Smith) B McMahon 5-9-5	S Sanders (5)	91
4	(9)	0220-41	WELSH SECRET 7 (D,F) (K Whaldon) Mrs J Ramsden 3-9-4 (7ex)	D Holland	95
5	(12)	0060-45	IRON KING 2 (D,F,S) (T Coleman) J Spearing 5-9-1	E Husband (5)	95
6	(4)	40083-6	COLWAY ANN 7 (Mrs R Coleman) A Stringer 3-8-13	G Husband	90
7	(11)	233450-	LATIN MASS 189 (J Fermor-Hesketh) J Berry 3-8-11	Kate Mason (5)	86
8	(2)	0204/00	PREVAILING WIND 103 (M Brittain) M Brittain 5-8-11	S Maloney	—
9	(3)	090641-	BRAVE MELODY 187 (CD,G,S) (Mrs G Rees) J H Wilson 5-8-11	Alex Greaves	86
10	(7)	13456-0	LADY'S MANTLE 4 (D,F,S) (Mrs P Bastiman) R Bastiman 7-8-5	H Bastiman (5)	85
11	(10)	00-4061	JIVE MUSIC 4 (B,D,G) (N Bycroft) N Bycroft 5-8-1 (7ex)	G Hind	● 99
12	(5)	05/0000-	SHEWHOMUSTBEOBEYED 177 (A Jones) A Jones 4-7-12	F Norton (5)	—
13	(13)	6/0050-0	MISS KIVE 81 (D Chapman) D Chapman 5-7-12	S Wood	—

BETTING: 11-4 Welsh Secret, 9-2 Iron King, 5-1 Brave Melody, 6-1 Banham College, 8-1 Jive Music, 10-1 Latin Mass, Kabcast, 12-1 Lady's Mantle, Colway Ann, 14-1 others.

1990: LUCEDEO 6-9-7 G Husband (5-4 fav) J Spearing 10 ran

3.15 RICHMOND STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,460: 5f) (6 runners)

1	(5)	11	DIAMOND MINE 11 (D,F,G) (P Savill) J Berry 9-7	K Darley	—
2	(4)	1	CHADLEIGH HOUSE 28 (CD,S) (J Bigg) R Hollinshead 9-4	S Perks	—
3	(3)	212	TRY LEGUARD 13 (D,G) (J Devaney) W Carter 9-4	T Williams	—
4	(2)		COMPUTER KID (Datasport Ltd) G Moore 8-11	Dean McKeown	—
5	(6)	00	WINGED WHISPER 11 (B) (Stars & Stripes Partnership) C Thornton 8-11	J Bleasdale	—
6	(1)		SPOUT HOUSE (Lady Murless) M H Easterby 8-6	M Birch	—

BETTING: 6-4 Diamond Mine, 7-4 Try Leguard, 6-1 Spout House, 8-1 Chadleigh House, 12-1 Computer Kid, 16-1 Winged Whisper.

1990: TIMELESS TIMES 9-4 A Munro (2-5 fav) W O'Gorman 5 ran

3.45 WIN WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP (£3,184: 1m 5f 180yd) (11 runners)

1	(6)	01265-0	FRESCOBALDO 28 (F) (T Morris) G Moore 5-9-10	D Nicholls	92
2	(11)	40313-0	ELADHAM 9 (F) (M Moore) M Hammond 5-9-4	Ron Hillis (3)	88
3	(4)	4445-04	SPOOF 9 (S Huerjak & B King) M Hammond 4-9-4	J Carroll	94
4	(1)	0000-21	PHAROAH'S GUEST 11 (F) (E Redel) J Akehurst 4-9-2	Dean McKeown	90
5	(3)	25000-0	WELCOMING ARMS 14 (H Thomson) P Calver 4-9-2	S Perks	98
6	(7)	356-845	SELDOM IN 11 (Mrs V Craggs) J Wharton 5-8-3	D Holland (5)	● 99
7	(5)	0000/0	PEANUTS PET 18J (BF) (L Perry) B McMahon 6-8-2	J Lowe	—
8	(10)	00/5041-	PREMIER PRINCESS 22J (C,S) (D Drury) W Bentley 5-8-1	S Wood (3)	86
9	(8)	0/40/32	ASTURIAS 9 (B,S) (Mrs A Dawson) A Stringer 8-7-13	J Fanning (5)	98
10	(9)	8305-53	COST EFFECTIVE 16 (Miss D Woods) M Brittain 4-7-12	S Maloney (5)	97
11	(2)	080010-	RATHER GORGEOUS 25J (CD,F) (Maj P Bailey) J H Wilson 6-7-10	N Carlisle	87

BETTING: 7-2 Pharoah's Guest, 4-1 Cost Effective, 5-1 Peanuts Pet, 6-1 Asturias, 8-1 Premier Princess, 10-1 Spoof, Seldom In, 12-1 Eladham, Frescobaldo, 14-1 others.

1990: SAXON COURT 4-9-0 S Whitworth (13-2) K Brassey 10 ran

3.30 BLUE RIBAND TRIAL STAKES (3-Y-O colts geldings: £6,912: 1m) (5 runners)

401	(4)	041-	FAIR AVERAGE 176 (D,S) (R Barnett) H Candy 9-0	C Rutter	91
402	(5)	10-11	PERSIANALLI 9 (C,F,G) (R Hubbard) J Gosden 9-0	W R Swinburn	● 99
403	(2)	2111-	REDDEN BURN 295 (F,G) (Sheikh Mohammed) H Cecil 9-0	W Ryan	91
404	(3)	0-30	COLOSSUS 8 (Capt. M Lemos) C Brittain 8-10	M Roberts	74
405	(1)		DUCKEY FUZZ (Mrs B Facchino) J Sutcliffe 8-10	B Raymond	—

BETTING: 13-8 Persianalli, 7-4 Redden Burn, 5-1 Fair Average, 8-1 Colossus, 20-1 Duckey Fuzz.

1990: ETON LAD 8-10 Pat Eddery (8-1) N Callaghan 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

FAIR AVERAGE beat Single File 7l at Leicester (1m, good to soft).
PERSIANALLI, half-brother to smart miler Alidiva, beat Sizzling Saga 2½l at Folkestone (6f, firm). REDDEN BURN beat Final Deed a short head at Chester (7f, good to firm). COLOSSUS 14l 9th to highly-regarded Wakashan at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm). DUCKEY FUZZ is a Ardross half-brother to the 1m 2f Listed race winner Native Twine.
Selection: PERSIANALLI (nap)

4.00 WESTMINSTER HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,808: 6f) (16 runners)

501	(2)	321253	ABLE JET 9 (B,F,S) (S Roots) Mrs N Macauley 9-7	J Marshall (7)	97
502	(11)	542150-	BEYOND OUR REACH 140 (BF,F,G) (C Hill) C Hill 9-6	J Quinn	● 99
503	(10)	40320-1	PARIOS 8 (D,F) (N Azar) J Payne 9-5 (6ex)	B Raymond	92
504	(7)	12050-6	CANDLE KING 25 (D,F) (Fairfax Partnership) M Fetherston-Godley 9-1	W Carson	96
505	(5)	60210-4	SHADES OF VERA 11 (D,F) (A Perry) G Lewis 9-0	Paul Eddery	96
506	(8)	3140-05	BANBURY FLYER 11 (F) (J Martin) Mrs A King 8-13	W R Swinburn	97
507	(12)	226033-	YES 186 (W Coleman) D Thom 8-12	L Dettori	92
508	(6)	431304-	GREEN GLOW 169 (BF,G) (Mrs E Weinstein) M Tompkins 8-9	R Cochrane	91
509	(14)	U31405-	GLENFIELD GRETA 207 (F) (P Felgate) P Felgate 8-7	M Roberts	90
510	(13)	2423	SECOND ADVENTURE 84 (V,BF) (A Urick) D Murray Smith 8-6	T Quinn	92
511	(15)	160013-	MERRYHILL MAID 163 (D,BF,F,G) (D Cahal) J Harris 8-5	J Williams	93
512	(4)	0323-41	CONTINENTAL CARL 47 (B,D,F) (C Dehaney) J Jenkins 8-5	J Reid	96
513	(1)	040000-	ECHO LADY 172 (Southern Evening Echo Owners Group) G Balding 8-0	N Adams	91
514	(16)	060-	MONSCOMA 163 (Mrs G Davison) A Davison 8-0	S Dawson	—
515	(6)	44-322	COUNTESS OF POLAND 9 (H De Kwiatkowski) Mrs L Piggott 7-13	A Munro	96
516	(3)	4300-03	ZONINA 7 (H Hopgood) R Hannon 7-11	A McGlone	97

BETTING: 11-4 Parios, 4-1 Candle King, 5-1 Banbury Flyer, 8-1 Continental Carl, Shades Of Vera, 15-2 Able Jet, 10-1 Countess Of Poland, 12-1 others.

1990: PROHIBITION 8-13 Pat Eddery (13-8 fav) J Berry 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ABLE JET 4¾l 3rd to Unveiled in a claimer at Nottingham (6f, good to firm).
BEYOND OUR REACH has claims if returning to form when beating Majestic Gambler 7l at Hamilton (5f, good) last September. PARIOS appeared to show improved form when beating Young Duke 1½l in Newmarket maiden (6f, good to firm).
SHADES OF VERA running-on ½l 4th to Baileysecret at Warwick (6f, good to firm), with BANBURY FLYER (same terms) head 5th. CONTINENTAL CARL made all to beat Where's Carol 3½l in Southwell claimer (AW, 6f, standard).
COUNTESS OF POLAND 2l 2nd of 15 to Wanda's Dream in Folkestone maiden (5f, firm). ZONINA 6¾l 3rd to Welsh Secret at Pontefract (5f, good to firm).
Selection: PARIOS

4.30 SPRING MEETING HANDICAP (3-Y-O fillies: £4,042: 1m) (19 runners)

601	(16)	1605-11	UNVEILED 9 (F,G) (Mrs K Burge) R Hodges 9-8 (5ex)	M Roberts	85
602	(9)	01540-	AGHNIYAH 201 (F) (H Al-Maktoum) P Walwyn 9-7	W Carson	96
603	(6)	61-	MISS U LIKE CRAZY 184 (G) (C Wright) J Hills 9-7	M Hills	90
604	(15)	1	LAMBADA STYLE 23 (D,G) (A Budge (Equine) Ltd) R Hannon 9-7.	B Raymond	92
605	(3)	150-0	IN A WHIRL 8 (F) (M Hill) N Callaghan 9-3	A Munro	90
606	(12)	441-	ABLE SUSAN 187 (S) (Exors of the late Mr E Moller) G Wragg 9-2	G Carter	98
607	(11)	10-	BATRA 298 (BF,F) (F Salman) P Cole 9-1	T Quinn	90
608	(17)	021-	HIGHLAND CEILIDH 197 (D,F) (C Humphris) J Dunlop 9-0	J Reid	84
609	(10)	01213-0	MAGGIE SIDDONS 23 (F,S) (C Hill) C Hill 9-0	G Duffield	92
610	(1)	011630-	FLIGHT OF PLEASURE 232 (G) (H Mould) B Hanbury 8-13	L Dettori	89
611	(18)	406-0	VILANY 11 (BF) (Mrs Patricia M Kalman) M Tompkins 8-12	R Cochrane	96
612	(14)	4303-	COLORFAYRE 228 (Mrs D Smith) L Codd 8-11	G Baxter	83
613	(13)	630-	ELFASLAH 183 (H Al-Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 8-11	R Hills	91
614	(4)	1-	POSSESSIVE DANCER 174 (G) (Mrs D Swinburn) A Scott 8-10.	W R Swinburn	97
615	(19)	0400-	ALMOST A PRINCESS 201 (Miss L Morrison) R Simpson 8-9	A Tucker (5)	91
616	(8)	1553-33	BEAU DADA 27 (F) (J Clarke) J White 8-5	J Williams	96
617	(7)	0-1	SUNLEY SPARKLE 32 (Sunley Holdings Plc) M Channon 8-0	J Quinn	96
618	(2)	000-4	SCARED STIFF 11 (M Kerr-Dineen) G Balding 7-13	N Adams	● 99
619	(5)	205	INTENTIONS 11 (Mrs J Murray Smith) D Murray Smith 7-11	C Rutter	97

BETTING: 3-1 Possessive Dancer, 7-2 Able Susan, 6-1 Miss U Like Crazy, Vilany, 10-1 Aghniyah, Almost A Princess, Highland Ceilidh, 12-1 Maggie Siddons, Unveiled, 16-1 others.

1990: WALKING SAINT 8-8 B Rouse (6-1 jt-fav) R Hannon 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

UNVEILED comfortable winner of claimers at Warwick (7f) and Nottingham (6f, good to firm) when beating Spaniards Close 4l. MISS U LIKE CRAZY beat Noble Flutter 3l in Folkestone maiden (6f, good). LAMBADA STYLE recovered from slow start to beat Daunt Not 3l in a maiden at Warwick (1m, good).
ELFASLAH 2½l 3rd to Nunivak on penultimate start in a maiden at Redcar (7f, good to firm), with ABLE SUSAN (5lb worse off) 2l 4th. POSSESSIVE DANCER led close home to beat No Comebacks neck in a maiden at Newmarket (6f, good). BEAU DADA strong finishing 1½l 3rd of 18 to Sleepline Fantasy at Brighton (7f, good to firm). SUNLEY SPARKLE beat Countess Of Poland ¾l in a maiden at Lingfield (AW, 6f), standard.
Selection: POSSESSIVE DANCER

5.00 BANSTEAD MAIDEN STAKES (Div II: 3-Y-O: £2,905: 7f) (16 runners)

1	(11)	4-0	CLAREMONT BOY 4 (B Miller) M Jarvis 9-0	A Munro	81
2	(5)		GAPTON PREY (P Reeborough) M Tompkins 9-0	R Cochrane	—
3	(6)	00	LACK OF EVIDENCE 9 (N Spreadbury) D Wilson 9-0	G Carter	—
4	(14)		MARZOCCO (J Davis) R Hannon 9-0	B Raymond	—
5	(16)	0-	NASHAAT 314 (H Al-Maktoum) W Hern 9-0	W Carson	—
6	(12)	2	PASADENA PET 12 (D Russell) J Fanshawe 9-0	G Duffield	90
7	(15)	000-	QUICK STEEL 163 (Quicksteel Ltd) T McGovern 9-0	N Adams	—
8	(13)	0-4	SATIN LOVER 29 (Mrs G Davison) A Davison 9-0	R Curant	75
9	(10)	0	TAPESTRY DANCER 33 (Instantline Ltd) M Haynes 9-0	B Raymond	—
10	(8)	25-	TROUPE 211 (BF) (R Sangster) B Hills 9-0	J Reid	87
11	(3)		VIDEO WALL (Video Equipment Hire Ltd) R Smyth 9-0	S Whitworth	—
12	(1)		BRIDAL TRAIN (M Oberstein) Lord Huntingdon 8-9	W R Swinburn	—
13	(9)	3-	CLOVERMILL 174 (J White) H Candy 8-9	C Rutter	● 99
14	(2)	0	LIME STREET LIL 23 (G Steinberg) L Holt 8-9	A McGlone	—
15	(7)	0-	NONE GO BY 215 (M Kerr-Dineen) G Balding 8-9	J Williams	—
16	(4)	0-	SURE VICTORY 163 (Salisbury Farms Ltd) P Walwyn 8-9	L Dettori	—

BETTING: 11-4 Nashaat, 100-30 Pasadena Pet, 9-2 Clovermill, 6-1 Troupe, 8-1 Gapton Prey, 10-1 Sure Victory, 12-1 Bridal Train, 16-1 others.

1990: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

NASHAAT speed 4f when 8½l 8th of 18 to Anjiz in a maiden at Newbury (6f, good to firm). PASADENA PET running-on 3l 2nd to Arabian King in Beverley maiden (7f 110yd, good to firm). TROUPE disappointed after debut when 2½l 3rd to Jimill, later promoted to 2nd, at Doncaster (6f, good). CLOVERMILL encouraging 4l 3rd to Shihama in a maiden at Newmarket (6f, good). MARZOCCO by Formidable, is the first foal of well related High Top mare. Cost 13,000gns as a yearling.
Selection: CLOVERMILL

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
H Cecil	19	51	37.3	R Cochrane	28	154	18.2
A Scott	6	20	30.0	W R Swinburn	25	151	16.6
M Stoute	25	97	25.8	A Munro	6	40	15.0
J Gosden	5	24	20.8	W Carson	34	247	13.8
W Hern	7	36	19.4	M Roberts	16	117	13.7
A Stewart	4	23	17.4	T Quinn	17	142	12.0

(Not including yesterday's results)

4.15 JOCKEY CAP SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,713: 1m 4f 40yd) (20 runners)

1	(7)	600000-	CAMERON PRIDE 116 (Mrs E Adair) J Dooler 8-10	J Fanning (5)	—
2	(11)	0500-00	CORPORATE TYPE 80 (L White) D Chapman 8-10	S Wood (3)	93
3	(16)	0-5	DERRING PET 26 (J Parkes) J Parkes 8-10	S Webster	—
4	(4)	00300-0	GIVEMEACALL 13 (M Pitcher) N Tinkler 8-10	Kim Tinkler	73
5	(9)	30050-5	GOLDEN GENERAL 5 (B) (R Cadoret) M Avison 8-10	J Lowe	85
6	(19)	350-00	KRONPRINZ 12 (A Jackson) A Stringer 8-10	D Nicholls	98
7	(3)	021-000	LONG FURLONG 7 (F) (B) (P Lau) D Jermy 8-10	G Bardwell	94
8	(12)	00-	PLEASANT TIMES 277 (M Brittain) M Brittain 8-10	S Maloney (5)	80
9	(1)	53000-0	QUESTION OF HONOR 29 (J Morris) R Hollinshead 8-10	G Husband (5)	89
10	(6)	026140-	SMILES AHEAD 146 (G) (C Barber-Lomax) J Hetherton 8-10	C Dwyer	● 99
11	(2)	50065-0	SWERVIN MERVIN 102 (G Beckett) D Dutton 8-10	M Birch	74
12	(18)	3-15504	PAINT THE LILY 9 (R Davis) D Jermy 8-9	T Sprake (5)	90
13	(15)	0-5	BONNY'S GAME 16 (Mrs M Butler) C W C Elsey 8-5	N Kennedy (5)	75
14	(10)	10000-0	CHARLIE'S DARLING 23 (G) (Mrs L May) J Czerpak 8-5	Ron Hillis (3)	87
15	(13)	030-20	HOT SUNDAY SPORT 9 (B) (Roldvale Ltd) P Kelleway 8-5	A Cruz	84
16	(8)	054403-	LA PEREET 252 (V) (Kaydales Plc) M Bell 8-5	Pat Eddery	94
17	(20)	40000-0	MARJORIE WOOD 14 (S Norton) S Norton 8-5	O Pears (7)	—
18	(14)	000-0	NAOMI'S KEEPSAKE 14 (E Covell) C Thornton 8-5	J Bleasdale	—
19	(5)	00000-	TORTIN 116 (J Hetherton) J Hetherton 8-5	W Newnes	71
20	(17)	0	YANKEEDOODLEDANCER 14 (E Richmond) R Whitaker 8-5	A Culhane	—

BETTING: 9-2 La Pereet, 5-1 Smiles Ahead, 11-2 Hot Sunday Sport, 6-1 Corporate Type, 8-1 Charlie's Darling, 10-1 Paint The Lily, Question Of Honour, 12-1 Golden General, Kronprinz, 14-1 others.

1990: VESTIGE 8-10 S Perks (16-1) R Hollinshead 18 ran

4.45 HURGILL LODGE STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,590: 7f) (5 runners)

1	(1)	25306-3	AZUREUS 7 (F) (J Murdoch) J S Wilson 9-4	J Fortune	81
2	(4)	4510-2	RUNAWAY LAD 18 (BF,G) (G Butts) G Pritchard-Gordon 9-3	W Newnes	85
3	(2)	4-1	SHAFOURI 9 (F) (D) (Ali K Al Jafleh) Mrs L Piggott 9-2	Pat Eddery	89
4	(3)	421-2	SECRET HAZE 14 (C,S) (Mrs J Hodgson) Miss S Hall 8-13	M Birch	● 99
5	(5)	343448-	FLASS VALE 280 (C Newton Jnr Ltd) T Fairhurst 8-11	J Fanning (5)	73

BETTING: 7-4 Secret Haze, 9-4 Shafouri, 7-2 Runaway Lad, 5-1 Azureus, 16-1 Flass Vale.

1990: NORWICH 9-0 Dean McKeown (5-4 fav) B Hills 6 ran

5.15 SPRING HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,978: 7f) (15 runners)

1	(7)	630-	MABTHUL 184 (H Al-Maktoum) D Morley 9-7	G Hind (3)	91
2	(15)	030-0	KILLINGHALL 5 (Mrs M Irwin) J Watts 9-5	Dean McKeown	80
3	(14)	2310-0	CHERRY DANCE 11 (G) (C Booth) D Chapman 9-2	S Wood (3)	85
4	(13)	16840-0	GRACELAND LADY 7 (G) (Mrs S Tindall) M H Easterby 9-1	K Darley	87
5	(4)	50-0002	WILD PROSPECT 11 (G) (G Dyson) C Tinkler 8-13	Pat Eddery	92
6	(3)	3442-40	BOLD SPARK 13 (D) (Mrs B Southam) Mrs J Ramsden 8-12	A Cruz	93
7	(1)	13060-0	HYSSOP 13 (D,F) (J Abell) J Berry 8-11	J Carroll	84
8	(2)	060-6	PIGEON LOFT 25 (Lord Zetland) P Calver 8-11	S Perks	82
9	(6)	200500-	WHO'S TEF 168 (F) (T F Freight Ltd) M H Easterby 8-9	M Birch	● 99
10	(9)	50000-0	CHANCE REPORT 7 (F Lee) F Lee 8-4	R Lappin	89
11	(8)	6000-00	DREAMS EYES 11 (D Riley) R Bastiman 8-2	H Bastiman (7)	90
12	(11)	000-	LAST STRAW 189 (Martin Pound Racing) A Jones 8-2	S Webster	85
13	(10)	00-0	MARSH WARBLER 22 (Mrs J Greatham) G Pritchard-Gordon 8-1	N Carlisle	—
14	(5)	0000-4	PREMIER CHOICE 14 (JBS Mailing Services) W Pearce 7-13	J Lowe	90
15	(12)	00000-0	BARRON'S BOY 23 (A Moore) W Carter 7-9	T Williams	86

BETTING: 4-1 Wild Prospect, 5-1 Killinghall, 6-1 Mabthul, Bold Spark, 8-1 Premier Choice, Who's Tef, 10-1 Pigeon Loft, Cherry Dance, 12-1 Hyssop, Graceland Lady, 14-1 others.

1990: BIG ECK 7-5 S Maloney (16-1) M Brittain 13 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
H Cecil	11	22	50.0	Pat Eddery	4	8	50.0
Miss S Hall	12	59	20.3	W Newnes	5	15	33.3
J Berry	29	166	17.5	G Husband	4	13	30.8
T Barron	24	143	16.8	Alex Greaves	7	24	29.2
N Tinkler	6	37	16.2	G Bardwell	4	19	21.1
M H Easterby	24	157	15.3	J Fortune	9	46	19.6

Sherwood fulfils ambition

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT, DUBLIN

THE Lambourn trainer Oliver Sherwood fulfilled a long-held ambition to train a winner in Ireland when Young Pokey triumphed in the BMW Champion Novice Hurdle at Punchestown yesterday.

Sherwood was amateur jockey and pupil assistant to Arthur Moore and partnered Royal Bond to win at the track. Apart from a blunder at the final flight, Young Pokey and Jamie Osborne had repeatedly outjumped the favourite Minorettes Girl and held off her late challenge by half a length.

The riding of her jockey Tony Mullins did not meet with the approval of the local stewards, however, and they handed him a five-day suspension for improper use of the whip.

Sherwood's other runner, Young Snugfit, finished fourth behind Good For A Laugh in the Motor Import Limited Handicap Chase.

The winner is engaged in today's Tattersalls Gold Cup Chase and Arthur Moore will see how he comes out of yesterday's race before deciding whether to ask him for a second effort.

Greenidge reaches 226 as Richards plays for caution

From JOHN WOODCOCK IN BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

IT WAS as though West Indies wanted to give Australia some chance of survival in the fourth Test match here yesterday. Not until they led by 551 runs did Richards declare, by when the remaining playing time was down to just over nine hours. But Australia, in their second innings, were at once in trouble, Marsh being leg-before to the first ball.

Australia had been in no hurry to bat. There seemed no earthly chance of their getting the 423 they would already have needed to win had West Indies declared before the start of play, let alone the huge target of 552 which Richards was intending to set them. But Richards, like Clive Lloyd before him and as Haynes did in Pakistan last winter, invariably allows caution to get the better of him on these occasions. It may stem from the day, 24 years ago, when Gary Sobers erred the other way at Port of Spain and England won against his declaration. To look at it another way, Richards can afford to be self-indulgent with the attack he has.

In the first hour yesterday Greenidge and Hooper made 47 against the bowling of Hughes, McDermott and Mark Waugh. On a lovely morning, with no suggestion or rain, Border was back in the field, hoping to be able to keep his broken and bandaged thumb out of harm's way. There is no braver player in the game. McDermott's two long legs were close enough to come together for conversation between balls, quite a new development; but Hooper avoided them by hooking McDermott for a magnificent six over mid-wicket, the stroke of the match. There was another very good and good-natured crowd to make up for some of the loss incurred in earlier Tests because of rain.

Leaving Hooper to look the more eagerly for runs, Greenidge went first to the highest individual score made for West Indies against Australia, beating Denis Atkinson's 219 on the same ground in 1954-5, and then to his own best Test score, which, until now, was the 223 which he made against England at Old Trafford in 1984.

When, eventually, Greenidge was leg-before to Hughes for 226, he had batted for 677 minutes, faced 480 balls and hit 32 fours. And Hobbs and Hendren are not the only 40-year-olds to have scored Test double hundreds as I said on Monday. Dudley Nourse and Eric Rowan were 40 and 42 respectively when the did so in England in 1951.

By lunch, Hooper had been acrobatically caught at the wicket down the leg-side, hooking at Mark Waugh, and Richards leg-before, also to Waugh, whose final figures of four for 80 in 28 overs made rather a nonsense of some of the others. Hughes was treated with no such respect, Richards hitting him in one over for three crashing fours. When, soon after, Dujon went to a lifter from McDermott, West Indies' procrastination became even more baffling. Reid benefitted by it, though, with two wickets in two balls. In the morning, Border had not so much as bowled him.

WEST INDIES: First innings 149 (M G Hughes 4 for 44, C J McDermott 4 for 48).

Second Innings

C G Greenidge lbw b M E Waugh	226
D L Haynes c Healy b M E Waugh	40
M D Marshall c Healy b McDermott	15
R B Richardson lbw b M E Waugh	99
C L Hooper c Healy b M E Waugh	57
*I V A Richards lbw b M E Waugh	25
A L Logie not out	33
†P J L Dujon c M E Waugh b McDermott	4
C E L Ambrose b Reid	2
C A Walsh c Marsh b Reid	0
B P Patterson not out	4
Extras (lb 19, nb 13)	32
Total (9 wkts dec)	536

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-129, 2-153, 3-352, 4-454, 5-470, 6-520, 7-522, 8-525, 9-525.

BOWLING: McDermott 37.3-8-130-2; Reid 30-4-100-2, Hughes 36-6-125-1; S R Waugh 28-6-77-0; M E Waugh 28-66-80-4; Jones 3-1-5-0.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 134 (C A Walsh 4 for 14).

Second Innings

G R Marsh lbw b Ambrose	0
M A Taylor not out	5
D C Boon not out	8
Extras (nb 1)	1
Total (1 wkt)	14

FALL OF WICKET: 1-0.

Umpires: L Barker and D Archer.

☐ Cape Town — Adrian Kuiper, the captain of Western Province, who led his side to victory in the Currie Cup, has joined a largely black club (Reuter reports). Kuiper's decision to join Primrose Cricket Club was announced two days after the largely white South African Cricket Union and the mainly black South African Cricket Board announced they would merge, on June 29.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Oval star of the East: Salim contrives a pull past Stewart as he twinkles to an undefeated 90 for Essex

Smith an example for young hopefuls

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

SOUTHAMPTON (Nottinghamshire won toss): Hampshire (2pts) beat Nottinghamshire by four runs

IF MICKY Stewart, the England team manager, came to Southampton seeking an endorsement of Andy Pick or encouragement from David Gower, his day was wasted. What must have interested him, however, was further compelling evidence that Chris Smith remains one of the country's most productive opening batsmen, and an indication that Hampshire's new generation is ready to flourish.

With Marshall busy elsewhere, Terry and Robin Smith injured and Bakker out of favour, the Hampshire side wore an ominously unfamiliar look. Yet their control of a demanding opening group match owed almost as much to the unsung Middleton and the uncapped Ayling, Udal and Aymes as it did to the phenomenal form of the elder Smith.

This was a firm, true pitch and Hampshire's score of 264 was no more than a shade better than par but they retained their grip, albeit only just in the final flurry, and the experience will have done this side enormous good.

It was unsurprising to see Smith set up the result even if he has slipped in popular conception to a role as "Robin's brother". While England's current Smith still aims to return to action on May 9, the family name refuses to subside.

Smith major played the last of his eight Tests five years ago and has not seriously been considered since. He is only 32 years old, though, and if the opposition was any other side but the West Indies this summer he could be fancied to make as many Test runs as anyone.

Imposingly solid in defence, he also hits the ball fiercely when the need dictates; if his mobility is against him, he would not feel out of place in the present England team on that count.

Not a single wicket fell before lunch, nor did one seem likely. Pick controlled his line and length no better than he had at Lord's last week and although Middleton played a supporting role, he too had passed 50 inside 36 overs.

Hampshire lost their way when Middleton fell to Cooper. In nine balls they surrendered three wickets for five runs, Gower attempting something too delicate after one thumping cover-drive and Wood being too anxious for his own good. It was a pivotal time for the captain to arrive but Nicholas responded with skill and spirit.

His stand with Smith brought 89 in 13 overs, of which Nicholas made 50 from 43 balls. Smith was left with an unbeaten hundred, just as he was in his final Benson and Hedges match last year.

Nottinghamshire needed a long innings from Broad and did not get it. He was beaten three times in two overs by the smooth action and late swing of Aqib before playing on to Connor. Robinson's impressive 54 was curtailed by an instinctive stumping by Aymes off the bottom edge and although Hampshire became ragged in the closing overs they had just enough in hand. Needing 14 off the last over, Nottinghamshire managed only nine.

Second-wicket stand decisive

By RICHARD STREETON

TAUNTON (Middlesex won toss): Middlesex (2pts) beat Somerset by eight wickets

FORCEFUL strokeplay by Mike Gatting and Mark Ramprakash brought Middlesex a crushing victory yesterday in this Benson and Hedges Cup match. Middlesex, needing 209, won with 9.5 overs to spare after Gatting and Ramprakash shared a chanceless second-wicket stand of 198 in 40 overs.

Only 48 hours earlier the same two batsmen hit centuries against Gloucestershire at Bristol to bring a Sunday league success. Once again the bowlers were made to look innocuous.

Gatting, who was given the gold award, faced 129 balls and hit 17 fours before he was bowled as he drove wildly with three runs wanted. Ramprakash relied less on brute force and more on timing than his partner.

The only time Gatting looked fallible was in Mallender's opening over when he was twice beaten. When Mallender bowled Pooley with a "shooter" in the fifth over, Middlesex must have wondered if the pitch was going to deteriorate but this soon proved a false alarm.

The only setbacks for Middlesex came from two injuries in the field. Roseberry fractured the little finger of his left hand and would only have batted in an emergency. He will be unavailable for a fortnight. Williams strained a hip muscle and would have had to bat with a runner.

After being put in, Somerset were greatly indebted to Roebuck and Cook for a century first-wicket stand when the pitch was at its liveliest. A mottled surface included patches of green and yielded both bounce and movement. Middlesex failed to take full advantage.

They did not help themselves, either, by dropping five catches before the stand was broken. Four more wickets quickly fell before Burns and Hayhurst added 60 in 16 overs. Cowans and Emburey kept the closing acceleration in check and Emburey finished with five for 37, his best figures in the competition.

Rather unusually Roebuck outscored Cook from the start. Headley, the new signing, looked the best of the seamers and should have had both men caught in his first spell. Roebuck gave chances when he was 20 and 42 and Cook was put down at 24, 30 and 35. The last was a hard one to long-off where Roseberry sustained his injury.

Emburey eventually had a hand in the first three wickets to fall in three successive overs. The opening partnership had reached 101 in 27 overs when he induced Cook to chop a ball into his stumps. Next Harden clipped a low catch to mid-wicket.

Somerset lost momentum for good when Roebuck was run out in the next over. Emburey dived to block the ball and, still on the ground, managed to jerk the ball back to Downton. Roebuck stumbled and was unable to get back in time.

Tavaré and Rose were caught behind from loose strokes and 132 for five at lunch represented a poor return after such a promising start. Burns hit Emburey for a straight six during his sixth-wicket stand with Hayhurst. It ended when Burns lifted Cowans to long-on where Tufnell took a spectacular running catch.

Burns on B and H stand-by

MICHAEL Burns, Warwickshire's third-choice wicketkeeper, is set to make his debut in the Benson and Hedges Cup match with Essex at Edgbaston tomorrow.

Burns, aged 21, gets his chance as Keith Piper is an almost certain non-starter because of the shoulder injury suffered during the pre-season tour to Barbados while the reserve wicketkeeper, Piran Holloway, is ruled out because he has been selected by the Combined Universities.

☐ France stages its first international match of modern times when the French national team takes on Belgium at the Château de Thoiry, just outside Paris, at the weekend. France beat an MCC team in September 1989 and plan fixtures this summer against Italy, Jersey and Guernsey as well as Essex.

☐ Port Regis, from Shaftesbury, broke new ground recently as the first English preparatory school to make a cricket tour of New Zealand.

Exit Essex in the gloaming looking for a bright light

By IVO TENNANT

THE OVAL (Surrey won toss): Surrey, with six wickets in hand, need 114 runs to beat Essex

IN THE knowledge that the light this morning can be no worse than the gloaming that gathered here after tea, Surrey chose to fight another day. Their captain opted to go off with his county requiring a further 114 runs to beat Essex in 15 overs, and in need of someone to play a substantial innings.

For the crowd, such as it was, this was, of course, hugely anticlimactic. Not many will return for an hour today, however much they may have been missing their cricket in the winter. Greig and his partner, Ward, were pretty well set — they had put on 56 — but with the asking rate as steep as it was, their decision when offered the light was the obvious one.

Greig, Ward and a rather lengthy tail will need to score their runs at 7.6 an over, which on such a placid pitch is not as taxing a target as it might appear. Needing 262 at the outset, Surrey made their task harder than it should have been through starting sluggishly.

Thorpe went early, edging Ilott to the slips, and Darren Bicknell struggled to sort out his timing. If this was wholly understandable so early in the season, it did nothing to help Surrey's cause. He had made 43 in 27 overs when he lined up and missed something that looked horribly like a reverse sweep against Such.

Stewart had already pulled Such into deep mid-wicket's hands and Lynch went for a duck, missing one from Pringle that did not deviate. Little did all day. Greig, as ever, did something about the scoring rate, swinging Such for six and forcing him to deploy three fielders on the leg-side boundary. The onus will be on him to swing the bat from the first over today.

In spite of an excellent undefeated innings of 90 by Salim Malik, it had seemed in mid-afternoon that Essex had not made enough. Put in on one of those straw-coloured pitches that were all the vogue here last season, they began promisingly enough. Gooch dealt summarily with Waquar Younis and Stephenson scored almost at will all round the wicket.

They took 44 off the first 10 overs and continued to score at four an over until Gooch failed to hit Feltham over cover. Another fortnight into the season and doubtless he would have done. Nevertheless, there were six fours in his innings of 34, one more than Salim struck in a much longer innings. These are long boundaries.

Salim's fours all came off his compatriot, Waquar, which may or may not have been coincidental. He played him with a wristy elegance that will serve his county well this season. When it comes to choosing overseas players, Essex do not make many mistakes.

Salim's runs were all the more invaluable since Stephenson and Hussain went swiftly after lunch, one smartly caught by Bullen off his own bowling, the other taken at the wicket off Martin Bicknell. Salim plundered until the very end.

Lawrence scuttles scholars

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

DAVID Lawrence, now a senior figure in a Gloucestershire team in the throes of rebuilding, saved them from an embarrassing defeat at the hands of Combined Universities in yesterday's Benson and Hedges Cup match at Bristol.

Lawrence proved too hostile and accurate for the University side after they had reached 50 without loss in pursuit of a modest target of 150.

Nick Knight, captain of the England under-19 team, launched their reply in fine style, but Lawrence put the innings into an irreversible decline when he bowled John Crawley and followed soon afterwards with the wicket of Knight for 36. All ten wickets fell while 33 runs were scored, leaving Gloucestershire winners by 66 runs. Lawrence, who finished with six for 20, took all his wickets in a six-over spell at a cost of eight runs.

Rob MacDonald, a South African fast-medium bowler from Oxford, via Cape Town and Durham Universities, had destroyed the Gloucestershire middle order with a burst of four wickets in 21 balls on his way to a return of six for 36, the best by a university bowler in the competition.

Minor Counties got within 17 runs of **Glamorgan's** 233 for seven at Trowbridge thanks to a late assault by the former Yorkshire batsman, Jim Love, who hit 81 from 78 balls. Glamorgan, after early troubles against Steve Greensword, still a formidable competitor at the age of 47, were pulled round by Ravi Shastri who hit two sixes and 13 fours in an unbeaten 138.

Lancashire, who began their title defence at Forfar, had a firm grip on the match against **Scotland** from the moment DeFreitas had Philip leg before with the first ball. Lancashire swept past the home side's 163 for eight for the loss of three wickets after an opening partnership of 97 between Mendis and Fowler.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Gloucs v Combined Univ

BRISTOL (Gloucs won toss): Gloucestershire (2pts) beat Combined Universities by 66 runs

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

G D Hodgson c Knight b Hallett	7
R J Scott c Holloway b MacDonald	29
*A J Wright c Crawley b MacDonald	13
C W J Athey c Holloway b MacDonald	0
M W Alleyne b MacDonald	6
J W Lloyds c Knight b Turner	19
†R C Russell c Jenkins b Turner	25
D V Lawrence c Knight b Macdonald	23
D R Gilbert c Holloway b MacDonald	1
M A Smith run out	8
A M Babington not out	1
Extras (b 3, lb 4, w 9, nb 1)	17
Total (50.5 overs)	149

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-49, 3-50, 4-59, 5-66, 6-86, 7-132, 8-133, 9-141.

BOWLING: Hansford 8.5-1-21-0; Hallett 11-0-32-1, MacDonald 10-1-36-6, Jenkins 11-1-35-0; Turner 10-2-18-2.

COMBINED UNIVERSITIES

R E Morris c Lloyds b Lawrence	19
*N J Knight c Alleyne b Lawrence	36
J P Crawley b Lawrence	0
J I Longley lbw b Lawrence	1
G J Turner c Russell b Gilbert	8
†P C L Holloway b Lawrence	0
P J Rendall b Lawrence	0
R H Macdonald c Smith b Lloyds	5
J T C Hallett b Lloyds	0
A R Hansford b Lloyds	0
R H J Jenkins not out	0
Extras (lb 4, w 6, nb 4)	14
Total (38 overs)	83

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-53, 3-60, 4-67, 5-69, 6-69, 7-76, 8-80, 9-80.

BOWLING: Gilbert 11-2-34-1; Lawrence 11-3-20-6. Babington 7-3-11-0, Lloyds 9-2-14-3.

Gold award: D V Lawrence

Umpires: G I Burgess and K J Lyons.

Minor Counties v Glam

TROWBRIDGE (Minor Counties won toss): Glamorgan (2pts) beat Minor Counties by 17 runs

GLAMORGAN

*A R Butcher c Roberts b Greensword	25
H Morris c Fothergill b Taylor	1
R J Shastri not out	138
M P Maynard c Brown b Greensword	7
I Smith run out	2
G C Holmes c Mack b Green	34
R D B Croft c Fothergill b Green	0
†C P Metson b Taylor	0
S L Watkin not out	5
Extras (b 4, lb 11, w 5, nb 1)	21
Total (7 wkts, 55 overs)	233

Did not bat: S R Barwick and M Frost.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-68, 3-84, 4-109, 5-190, 6-191, 7-202.

BOWLING: Taylor 11-4-33-2; Mack 11-3-49-0; Green 10-0-55-2; Greensword 11-3-31-2; Evans 10-0-35-0; Plumb 2-0-15-0.

MINOR COUNTIES

G K Brown b Barwick	2
M J Roberts c Shastri b Croft	40
N A Folland C Barwick b Croft	45
J D Love c Butcher b Watkin	81
S G Plumb b Watkin	23
*S Greensword run out	3
†R A Fothergill lbw b Frost	0
R A Evans b Watkin	5
R C Green not out	0
N R Taylor not out	1
Extras (lb 9, w 7)	16
Total (8 wkts, 55 overs)	216

Did not bat: A J Mack.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-78, 3-108, 4-174, 5-180, 6-186, 7-215, 8-215.

BOWLING: Watkin 11-4-28-3; Frost 11-1-45-1; Barwick 10-3-31-1, Shastri 11-1-36-0, Croft 9-0-49-2; Smith 3-0-18-0.

Gold award: R J Shastri.

Umpires: B Dudleston and B J Meyer.

Somerset v Middlesex

TAUNTON (Middlesex won toss): Middlesex (2pts) beat Somerset by eight wickets

SOMERSET

P M Roebuck run out	61
S J Cook b Emburey	41
R J Harden c Ramprakash b Emburey	3
G D Rose c Downton b Williams	11
*C J Tavare c Downton b Tufnell	1
A N Hayhurst c Downton b Cowans	32
†N D Burns c Tufnell b Cowans	37
R P Lefebvre st Downton b Emburey	5
N A Mallender c Cowans b Emburey	1
D A Graveney not out	3
D Beal b Emburey	1
Extras (b 1, lb 6, w 4)	11
Total (55 overs)	208

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-101, 2-107, 3-116, 4-123, 5-127, 6-187, 7-200, 8-204, 9-208.

BOWLING: Williams 11-0-26-1; Cowans 11-1-49-2, Headley 11-2-48-0; Tufnell 11-0-41-1; Emburey 11-0-37-5.

MIDDLESEX

J C Pooley b Mallender	2
*M W Gatting b Beal	112
M R Ramprakash not out	78
K R Brown not out	0
Extras (lb 10, w 3, nb 5)	18
Total (2 wkts, 45.1 overs)	210

M A Roseberry, †P R Downton, J E Emburey, P C R Tufnell, D Headley, N F Williams and N G Cowans did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-206.

BOWLING: Mallender 10-2-45-1; Lefebvre 8-2-22-0; Beal 8-1-51-1; Rose 7-0-31-0; Graveney 7-0-33-0; Hayhurst 5.1-0-18-0.

Gold award: M W Gatting.

Umpires: K E Palmer and D R Shepherd.

Derbyshire v Northants

DERBY (Derbyshire won toss): Northamptonshire (2pts) beat Derbyshire by 66 runs

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

A Fordham c Bowler b Mortensen	1
N A Felton c Barnett b Base	23
R J Bailey c Morris b Mortensen	39
*A J Lamb c Azharuddin b Malcolm	45
D J Capel c Roberts b Base	3
K M Curran b Warner	26
R G Williams c Azharuddin b Barnett	22
E A E Baptiste not out	16
J G Thomas not out	4
Extras (b 1, lb 6, w 7)	14
Total (7 wkts, 55 overs)	191

Did not bat: †D Ripley and J P Taylor.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-43, 3-93, 4-108, 5-134, 6-156, 7-181.

BOWLING: Mortensen 11-5-16-2; Warner 11-4-25-1; Base 11-0-40-2; Malcolm 11-1-42-1; Roberts 4-0-26-0; Barnett 7-1-35-1.

DERBYSHIRE

*K J Barnett c Ripley b Thomas	6
†P D Bowler c Ripley b Thomas	3
J E Morris c Felton b Thomas	0
M Azharuddin b Capel	29
B Roberts c Ripley b Thomas	2
T J G O'Gorman b Capel	49
C J Adams b Taylor	0
A E Warner c Bailey b Capel	0
D E Malcolm c Williams b Thomas	14
S J Base b Capel	7
O H Mortensen not out	4
Extras (lb 4, w 5)	9
Total (38.3 overs)	125

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-12, 3-13, 4-20, 5-96, 6-97, 7-98, 8-98, 9-110.

BOWLING: Thomas 9.3-1-29-5; Taylor 11-3-14-1; Curran 3-0-15-0; Capel 11-1-37-4; Baptiste 4-0-26-0.

Gold award: J G Thomas.

Umpires: H D Bird and B Hassan.

Surrey v Essex

THE OVAL (Surrey won toss): Surrey, with six wickets in hand, require 114 runs in 15 overs to beat Essex

ESSEX

*G A Gooch c Greig b Feltham	34
J P Stephenson c and b Bullen	73
P J Prichard c and b Feltham	10
Salim Malik not out	90
N Hussain c Stewart b M P Bicknell	1
D R Pringle run out	25
N Shahid run out	8
†M A Garnham not out	6
Extras (lb 7, w 7)	14
Total (6 wkts, 55 overs)	261

N A Foster, M C Ilott and P M Such did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-82, 2-98, 3-160, 4-161, 5-212, 6-237.

BOWLING: Waqar Younis 11-0-63-0; M P Bicknell 11-0-55-1; Murphy 11-1-46-0; Feltham 11-1-45-2; Thorpe 4-0-16-0; Bullen 7-0-29-1.

SURREY

D J Bicknell lbw b Such	43
G P Thorpe c Pringle b Ilott	3
†A J Stewart c Prichard b Such	30
D M Ward not out	33
M A Lynch lbw b Pringle	0
*I A Greig not out	32
Extras (lb 3, w 4)	7
Total (4 wkts, 40 overs)	148

M A Feltham, C K Bullen, M P Bicknell, Waqar Younis and A J Murphy to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-67, 3-91, 4-92.

Umpires: J H Harris and J C Balderstone.

Scotland v Lancashire

FORFAR (Lancashire won toss): Lancashire (2pts) beat Scotland by seven wickets

SCOTLAND

I L Philip lbw b DeFreitas	0
B M W Patterson c Atherton b DeFreitas	2
G Salmond c Fairbrother b DeFreitas	6
G Reifer lbw b Watkinson	25
*O Henry c Hegg b Watkinson	8
A B Russell c Hegg b DeFreitas	31
J W Govan b Austin	18
†D J Haggo not out	22
A Bee b Austin	13
D Cowan not out	3
Extras (lb 9, w 21, nb 5)	35
Total (8 wkts, 55 overs)	163

J D Moir did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-6, 3-9, 4-43, 5-68, 6-116, 7-123, 8-154.

BOWLING: DeFreitas 11-5-21-4; Allott 11-3-21-0; Akram 11-0-32-0; Watkinson 11-2-30-2; Austin 11-0-50-2.

LANCASHIRE

G Mendis c Philip b Cowan	63
G Fowler c Reifer b Govan	45
M A Atherton c Haggo b Cowan	10
*N H Fairbrother not out	22
M Watkinson not out	15
Extras (lb 1, w 8)	9
Total (3 wkts, 46.2 overs)	164

N J Speak, Wasim Akram, †W K Hegg, I D Austin, P A J DeFreitas and P J W Allott did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-97, 2-115, 3-132.

BOWLING: Bee 4-0-18-0; Moir 8-1-26-0; Reifer 8.2-2-27-0; Cowan 9-0-47-2; Govan 11-4-26-1; Henry 6-1-19-0.

Gold award: P A J DeFreitas.

Umpires: J H Hampshire and R Julian.

Hampshire v Notts

SOUTHAMPTON (Notts won toss): Hampshire (2pts) beat Nottinghamshire by four runs

HAMPSHIRE

T C Middleton b Cooper	60
C L Smith not out	121
D I Gower c French b Hemmings	5
J R Wood c Randell b Hemmings	0
*M C J Nicholas b Pick	50
J R Ayling not out	3
Extras (lb 17, w 4, nb 4)	25
Total (4 wkts, 55 overs)	264

K D James, †A N Aymes, S D Udal, C A Connor and Aaqib Javed did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-153, 2-168, 3-169, 4-257.

BOWLING: Stephenson 11-0-56-0; Pick 11-0-61-1; Cooper 11-2-42-1; Saxelby 11-1-39-0; Hemmings 11-0-49-2.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

B C Broad b Connor	8
M Newell c Wood b Udal	18
*R T Robinson st Aymes b Ayling	54
P Johnson c Middleton b Ayling	24
D W Randall c and b Connor	5
M Saxelby lbw b Udal	32
F D Stephenson c Connor b Aqib Javed	14
†B N French not out	37
E E Hemmings c Connor b Udal	9
K E Cooper run out	0
R A Pick not out	25
Extras (b 2, lb 14, w 17, nb 1)	34
Total (9 wkts, 55 overs)	260

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11, 2-62, 3-116, 4-126, 5-135, 6-160, 7-194, 8-212, 9-216.

BOWLING: Aqib Javed 11-2-35-1; Connor 11-1-50-2; James 11-0-55-0; Udal 11-1-48-3; Ayling 11-0-56-2.

Umpires: R Palmer and R C Tolchard.

Kent v Leicestershire

CANTERBURY (Leics won toss): Kent (2pts) beat Leicestershire by 74 runs

KENT

*M R Benson c Briers b MaGuire	76
N R Taylor c Wilkinson b Lewis	1
T R Ward b Mullally	87
G R Cowdrey not out	70
C S Cowdrey b Lewis	4
M V Fleming b Lewis	8
†S A Marsh not out	23
Extras (b 1, lb 10, w 15, nb 2)	28
Total (5 wkts, 55 overs)	297

R M Ellison, M J McCague, T A Merrick and A P Igglesden did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-174, 3-188, 4-201, 5-221.

BOWLING: Lewis 11-0-62-3; Mullally 11-0-45-1; MaGuire 11-3-59-1; Wilkinson 11-0-58-0; Willey 6-0-33-0; M R Benson 5-0-29-0.

LEICESTERSHIRE

L Potter c C S Cowdrey b Igglesden	6
*N E Briers c Marsh b McCague	12
J J Whitaker b Merrick	100
P Willey c G R Cowdrey b Fleming	36
C C Lewis c Taylor b Fleming	5
J D R Benson b McCague	27
†P Whitticase c Marsh b Merrick	2
C Wilkinson not out	9
J Maguire c Taylor b Igglesden	2
A D Mullally c and b Igglesden	5
T J Boon absent injured	0
Extras (lb 8, w 10, nb 1)	19
Total (54.5 overs)	223

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-25, 3-112, 4-126, 5-199, 6-205, 7-207, 8-210, 9-223.

BOWLING: McCague 11-1-53-2; Igglesden 10.5-1-32-3; Merrick 11-2-34-2; Ellison 11-0-44-0; Fleming 11-0-52-2.

Umpires: D O Oslear and M J Kitchen.

Rosi prospect

Gianfranco Rosi, aged 33, of Italy, will defend his IBF light-middleweight boxing title against Glenn Wolfe, of the United States, in Avezzano, Italy, on July 13.

Hostile spell by Thomas is too much for Derbyshire

By JACK BAILEY

DERBY (Derbyshire won toss): Northamptonshire (2pts) beat Derbyshire by 66 runs

A SPELL by Greg Thomas of three wickets in eight balls without conceding a run both removed the top of Derbyshire's batting and proved the crucial element in Northamptonshire's victory.

Thomas's haul of five for 29 rewarded the most hostile bowling all day, and although O'Gorman, who made his top score of 49 in the Benson & Hedges competition, struck out with spirit and with Azharuddin added 76 in 13 overs, Capel's burst after tea, aided by irresolute batting, saw Northamptonshire home in surprisingly comfortable style. They had more than 15 overs to spare, and Derbyshire's last six wickets tumbled for only 29 runs.

Northamptonshire's 191 for seven had looked to be no more than barely presentable, even on this low, slow, early-season, seamers' pitch. But Thomas obtained lift where nobody else had, moved the ball briskly away from the right-hander, had first Bowler, then Barnett, then Roberts feeling for the ball and caught behind by Ripley, and caused Morris to play an indeterminate shot and give a catch to square leg.

Azharuddin was dropped by Lamb at second slip during this hectic period, and there was no doubting the justice of the nomination of Thomas for the Gold Award.

Although never dealt with in quite such a shattering manner, Northamptonshire's batsmen, like their opponents after them, were always tugging against the collar. They were kept firmly on the leash by Derbyshire's eternal Dane, Mortensen, and found even Barnett's leg spin difficult to dispatch beyond the square. Bailey and Lamb, however, put on 50 in nine overs before Bailey was caught at deep cover from the last ball before lunch.

Lamb's penchant for giving himself room and punching the ball square of the wicket served him and his side well, and Curran and Williams chipped in, though less convincingly, to see Northamptonshire to respectability. Yet the abiding memory of the innings was a brilliant tumbling catch by Barnett, as he made a lot of ground to extra cover, to dismiss Felton after the Northamptonshire opener had ground along for 26 overs.

O'Gorman's innings overshadowed everything else Derbyshire had to offer. When, in company with the Indian captain, he was robustly restoring Derbyshire from a potentially dangerous 20 for four, it was he who looked more assured, striking the ball forcefully in front of the wicket, defending staunchly and looking in little trouble. For just a brief period, Derbyshire looked as though the match might not be beyond them.

But when Azharuddin lost his off stump while trying to run the ball to third man during the 26th over, all realistic support for O'Gorman had gone. When he himself played on to Capel it was the end of a brave and promising effort. It was also the end of any effective resistance.

Promising Eton attack

SCHOOLS CRICKET by GEORGE CHESTERTON

DESPITE the cold and wet start to the season hopes are high, not least at Eton whose captain, Jonathan Whittington, was the young bowler of the year in 1990. His skilful slow left-arm allied to the pace of Gareth Lewis provides the basis of a formidable attack.

Harrow have five old colours including the captain, Simon Guillebaud, a sound No. 4 bat and Ted Williams, who had two hundreds to his credit last year. Toby Sawrey-Cookson who leads Wellington will be supported by four other seasoned players. Wellington have arranged a two-day match against Cheltenham, a revival of a contest of some 150 years ago. Charterhouse will be captained by T Bristowe, who has five of last year's team to call on. Christchurch GS, Perth and Haileybury, Melbourne will be paying return visits to Felsted where Michael Crisp, Andrew Woods and Michael Martin should make runs. The spin department at Alleyn's is the side's main strength but they may struggle to match last year's unbeaten record.

Bradfield, who will be among the English sides to compete in the Gary Sobers festival in Barbados, are led by William Kendall. M Semmence, son of a distinguished cricketing father, will captain **Hurstpierpoint** for a second year. There are plenty of good young players coming through here for the under-15 side won the Lord's Taverners trophy last year.

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مكتب الاعلام

FOOTBALL

Marseilles guard against another semi-final failure

By Peter Robinson

THE spectres of past failures are haunting Raymond Goethals. On the verge of leading Marseilles to their first European Cup final, the manager of the French champions has taken every precaution to make sure that this time, Marseilles do not miss out.

Last season, though widely expected to beat a mediocre Benfica side in the semi-finals, Marseilles contrived to lose, and three years ago, at the same stage of the Cup Winners' Cup, they similarly failed, this time against Ajax. The lessons have not been lost on the wily Belgian.

After a subdued 1-1 draw with bottom-placed Rennes at the weekend, Goethals took his players to the secluded Alpine resort of Digne and sealed them off from the attentions of media and public alike. Aware that over-confidence is an obvious danger after Marseilles's 3-1 win away to Spartak Moscow in the first leg of the semi-final two weeks ago, Goethals also gave his squad a stern public warning.

"We cannot afford to be sloppy like that if we are going to reach the final," he said after the visit to Rennes. "We have got to take our chances, or we will be punished for missing them.

"The players cannot say that their minds were on the match against Spartak. If they can't cope with two competitions, we will fall between two stools and lose both."

Not surprisingly, Goethals has kept his team selection a closely-guarded secret, but his only real problem is to find a replacement for the injured midfield player, Pardo. Chris Waddle, omitted from the England squad to face Turkey in Izmir in a European championship qualifiying match next week, is a certain starter, operating alongside Papin and Pele, of Ghana, up front. He, understandably, has a point or two to prove.

Spartak, in contrast, have had their preparation for the trip to France badly disrupted by the loss of players to the Soviet national squad, and had little time together. Defensively suspect, they may instead prefer to attack from the start, exploiting the pace of the forwards, Shmarov and Radchenko.

Goethals would find a sympathetic ear in Belgrade. Ljupko Petrović, the manager of Yugoslav champions Red Star, is also betraying signs of nerves before the semi-final second-leg meeting with Bayern Munich. Although his team lead 2-1 on aggregate after a brilliant performance in Germany, Petrović is wary.

Recalling the 3-1 win Bayern claimed in Milan in the Uefa Cup semi-final with Internazionale two years ago, he said: "They were capable of doing anything then and they can still do it now. I am trying to tell my players they have to play on Wednesday as if nothing happened in Munich. Over-confidence is a deadly sin when you play against a team like Bayern."

Yet, with outstanding talents Prosinecki, Pancev and Savicević to call on, Petrović is still likely to deny the Germans, out-of-sorts and in inconsistent form, and set up a final meeting with Marseilles that would be the most eagerly-awaited in years.

The Cup Winners' Cup encounter between Barcelona and Juventus in Turin has, however, been the most talked-about of tonight's semi-final ties. Trailing by two goals after the first leg in Spain, Juventus have promised to put their visitors under immediate pressure, playing the German, Hässler, alongside Baggio, Casiraghi and Schillaci in a four-man forward line. Barcelona plan to counter-attack whenever they can: the Stadio Dello Alpe is in for a treat.

In the Uefa Cup, both AS Roma and Internazionale are at home after securing goalless draws in first-leg matches, Roma against Bröndby, the competition's surprise package, in Denmark, and Inter against Sporting Lisbon. An all-Italian final is likely.

Gascoigne seeks to prove his fitness

By Louise Taylor

THE contrasting aims of avoiding injury before the FA Cup final, while striving to be assured of a Wembley place, will inevitably prey on the minds of the Nottingham Forest and Tottenham Hotspur players tonight. Fresh from putting seven goals past Chelsea on Saturday, Forest are at home to Norwich City, while Tottenham entertain Everton.

With Gary Lineker and Pat Van den Hauwe both old Evertonians, the match at White Hart Lane has added spice, but the principal storyline is bound to involve Paul Gascoigne. The England midfield player is expected to start this evening, and his club fitness, in the wake of a well-documented double-hernia operation, will determine whether he boards the plane to Izmir for next week's European championship qualifying match against Turkey.

Everton are without the central defensive services of Watson, who was concussed at Crystal Palace last Saturday, and Howard Kendall, their manager, has added McDonald and Hinchcliffe, both defenders, to his squad.

Meanwhile, Forest and Norwich, who are still smarting from a comprehensive 3-0 defeat at Liverpool last Saturday, should produce an attractive spectacle at the City Ground. They both play a similar, creative, passing game and should complement each other.

Graham Taylor, the England manager, will take more than a passing interest in events in Nottingham, where Nigel Clough, *included in the England* squad, will lead the attack. He may also have planned a check on the fitness and form of Steve Hodge, but the Forest midfield player will again be missing from Brian Clough's line-up having suffered a thigh strain in a reserve game last week.

The reserve match was, frustratingly, to have signalled his return after a lengthy spell out with injury. Hodge, indeed, has only played 19 matches this season, and his place on the plane to Turkey next week is now considered very doubtful.

In the second division, Leicester City travel to meet a Sheffield Wednesday side still savouring Sunday's Rumbelows Cup final triumph. However, Wednesday will need to be wide awake against a City side who are desperate for points to help stave off relegation. A weekend victory over Portsmouth may have the fears at Filbert Street, but a defeat would revive them all too quickly.

A win for Wednesday would not immediately confirm their first division future, but it would leave them seven points ahead of Millwall with two games in hand, and automatic promotion effectively assured.

West Ham United are already up, but with the champagne on ice until the title is theirs, Billy Bonds's unaltered team will be doing their utmost against Newcastle United, who have discovered a new lease of life under the management of Osvaldo Ardiles. United, indeed, have beaten Oldham Athletic under Ardiles's charge, and Bonds will be quick to warn his players against suffering a similar fate.

Harry Redknapp, a graduate of the West Ham playing academy, must pit his wits against a manager out of the long-ball school at Cambridge tonight. Relegated only last season, Redknapp's Bournemouth will do their chances of participating in the play-offs a power of good by beating John Beck's Cambridge United, who are pressing for automatic promotion.

With games in hand, Cambridge could prove the dark horses of the third division, and Southend United, Grimsby Town and Bolton Wanderers are all casting anxious glances over their shoulders.

Taylor defends selection

GRAHAM Taylor, the England manager, has turned on his critics and insisted that nothing will deflect him from his preparations for the World Cup finals in 1994.

"We must not let qualifying for the European championships and doing well in that prevent players who obviously could play a part in a successful World Cup campaign from getting international experience," he said.

"I have to take the decision on players who are international class, but who I think as, as England manager, will not be of value to me and England in 1994. It may be that certain people will disagree with my *opinion on certain players*. I'm afraid there is only one England manager and in my job you have to be very, very strong. You must do what you think is right.

Taylor praised his predecessor, Bobby Robson, for leaving him with a squad that was good enough to reach the World Cup semi-finals, but added: "There are certain players in that squad who peaked then and will not be able or be about to peak in 1994. I cannot have sympathy, even though it may be argued that they may be a better bet for us to qualify for the European nations championships finals."

☐ Roger Palmer, *Oldham* Athletic's record goalscorer, has been ruled out for the rest of the season with knee ligament damage. The injury will also force him to miss his testimonial game against Manchester City on May 13.

☐ Eric Young, the Crystal Palace defender, has been withdrawn from the Welsh squad to play Iceland in a friendly on May 1 because of a knee injury.

☐ The Republic of Ireland have called off their proposed friendly against Mexico on May 28. Jack Charlton's side will now press ahead with plans to meet the United States in Boston on June 1.

IN BRIEF

Debut of Ludwig

OLAF Ludwig, who won the 1988 Olympic cycling road race for East Germany before being allowed to turn professional last year, makes his British debut in the fifth round of the Scottish Provident League city-centre series at Portsmouth on May 22.

☐ The 1,760-kilometre Tour Du Pont in the United States, successor to the Tour de Trump, has signed Sean Kelly, Greg LeMonde and Erik Breukink as its top riders.

BOXING: Julio Cesar Chavez, of Mexico, has given up his IBF junior welterweight title rather than accept a mandatory defence against Raphael Pineda.

ATHLETICS: An appeals panel in Indianapolis has upheld the two-year doping suspension of Randy Barnes, world record holder in the shot put. Barnes, aged 24, can appeal to the US Olympic Committee.

BILLIARDS: The finals of the world professional championship, due in Delhi next month, clash with national elections and have been postponed.

BASKETBALL: Mel Welch has resigned as secretary of the English Basket Ball Association to become co-ordinator of the Carnegie National Sports Development Centre at Leeds Polytechnic.

SWIMMING

Gallop rewarded for Davies comeback

By Craig Lord

ROSA Gallop was awarded the first Omega female coach of the year award by colleagues and rivals on Saturday for her efforts in bringing *Sharron Davies* back into the international arena after an eight-year retirement.

Davies, who won a silver medal at the Moscow Olympic Games in 1980, became a finalist at last year's Commonwealth Games at Auckland after only a year of training with Gallop at Bracknell. Jeannette Gunston, whom Gallop had trained for more than ten years, also returned to competition after a break to make the British team for New Zealand.

Gallop, who has helped Bracknell become the best club in Berkshire, said: "It's great to get recognition from your fellow coaches. Coaching is something that takes up many hours and I'm grateful for my family's support. Being the first woman to win this award is the icing on the cake. I hope it encourages more women to coach at senior level."

Ironically, Davies and Emma Tattam, who has become one of Britain's best backstroke swimmers over the last six months, are now competing for Portsmouth Northsea, although both *still train with Gallop some of* the time.

The British Swimming Coaches Association stayed true to form in choosing the men's award. Terry Denison, head coach to City of Leeds and the national team, was voted Speedo coach of the year for a record ninth time.

His star pupil, Adrian Moorhouse, the Olympic and Commonwealth champion, was voted male swimmer of the year, while Joanne Deakins, the Gloucester City backstroke specialist who has twice lowered her Commonwealth record at 200 metres this year, received the women's title.

Denison plans to use his £800 award to study training methods in Hungary.

British coaches chose Portsmouth Northsea as the nation's top club, while Brian McGuiness, of Oldham, won the first Alan Hime award for developing coaches.

Champagne landfall: Christophe Auguin, of France, celebrates in Newport, Rhode Island, after reaching the finishing line first in the BOC single-handed round the world yacht race, yesterday, in 120 days 22 hours and 36 minutes. Report, page 44

ATHLETICS

Budding talent in S Africa

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

IN AN emotionally charged atmosphere, precipitated by the anticipation of South Africa's return to international competition, perhaps even in time for the world championships in Tokyo this summer, the republic's national championships at the weekend showed there is more to women's distance running there than Zola Pieterse.

Elana Meyer, at 24 the same age as Pieterse (formerly Budd), ran a 10,000 metres which promises well for the international arena. Out on her own, and at 4,600ft altitude in Pretoria, Meyer improved by 15.77sec her South African record, which she had set two years earlier at sea-level, to 32min 13.13sec.

Meyer, who had beaten Pieterse to the national cross-country title in September, chose not to race her at 3,000 metres. Pieterse, who is moving gradually towards the form which took her to the 5,000 metres world record in the 1980s, says her philosophy now is that winning is not everything. But it was a big part of her weekend. She won the 1,500 metres in 4min 08.65sec and the 3,000 metres in 9min 05.72sec.

As well as two good woman distance runners, South Africa has two 400-metre hurdlers who could make an impression. Dries Vorster won the men's title in 48.82sec and Myrtle Bothma the women's in 54.48sec. Given the incentive of international competition, Vorster and Bothma might find the extra second needed to rise to the top.

☐ Ian McCombie heads a British team of 12 in the IAAF world walking cup in San Jose, California, on June 1 and 2.

TEAM: Men: 20km: I McCombie (Cambridge H), A Penn (Coventry), M Easton (Surrey), M Rush (Lakeland). 50km: P Blagg (Cambridge H) C Maddocks (City of Plymouth), D Jackson (York Postal), L Morton (Sheffield). Women: 10km: B Sworowski, H Elleker, V Lupton (all Sheffield), J Drake (Brighton and Hove).

VOLLEYBALL

Latvian visitors hand out an early warning

TEAM Riga's presence in Britain this week coincides with a quickening of preparations by both England and Scotland for the forthcoming European men's championship qualification rounds (Roddy Mackenzie writes).

Scotland, who travel to Czechoslovakia early next month to face the Soviet Union, Denmark and the host nation in their group, have already encountered the force of the Latvian side, the first from eastern Europe to play in Scotland for 19 years.

In Wishaw, playing under the guise of a Scottish All Stars select, Scotland went down by 12-15, 7-15, 15-11, 7-15.

The Latvians play the English All Stars at Rugby on Friday and Brixton on Saturday.

England's European commitments are not until June when they must travel to Spain for matches against San Marino, Poland, Yugoslavia and the host nation.

There is some concern over Team Lander's Iain Grubb, Scotland's most potent player, who suffered a back injury against Team Riga. Scotland can scarcely afford to do without his skills in the difficult games ahead.

TABLE TENNIS

Chen will fill a key role for England

CHEN Xinhua should make his world championship debut for England against Belgium today in Japan, four years after playing in the Chinese team that won the title. He is hoping to lead a medal challenge for his adopted country (Richard Eaton writes).

Chen the highest English player at No. 9 in an ITTF computer ranking, is likely to play two singles, leaving Carl Prean and Alan Cooke to play a single apiece and the doubles.

Scotland are in danger of being scratched from the women's team event because Janet Smith has been taken ill.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying rounds: North and Central American and Caribbean region: United States 10, Trinidad and Tobago 0

BRAZILIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Botafogo-Rio de Janeiro 0, Palmeiras 0.

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Chelsea 2, Southampton 2.

Late results on Monday

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Altrincham 4, Sutton United 1, Fisher Athletic 1, Welling 1, Kidderminster Harriers 0, Colchester United 0, Macclesfield 2, Yeovil Town 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Altrincham	37	23	11	3	82	37	80
Colchester	39	23	10	6	63	33	79
Barnet	38	23	8	7	91	45	77
Kettering	39	22	10	7	61	39	76
Wycombe W	38	19	10	9	69	41	67
Telford	39	18	7	14	57	49	61
Macclesfield	40	16	12	12	60	50	60
Runcorn	40	14	10	16	61	65	52
Welling	38	12	14	12	51	50	50
Merthyr Tyd	37	14	8	15	57	57	50
Barrow	37	12	11	14	51	59	47
Yeovil	39	12	10	17	55	55	46
Stafford	39	11	13	15	44	46	46
Boston	39	12	10	17	54	62	46
Kidderminstr	37	12	9	16	48	61	45
Northwich	38	10	12	16	56	72	42
Cheltenham	38	10	12	16	44	65	42
Gateshead	37	12	6	19	46	62	42
Slough	38	12	5	21	46	74	41
Sutton U	38	10	9	20	58	71	39
Bath	39	9	11	19	52	59	38
Fisher	39	5	14	20	34	69	29

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Leicester 0, Coventry 0. Second division: Bolton 6, York 1, Stoke 0 Mansfield 1.

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: QPR 1, Brighton 0, Millwall 1, West Ham 1; Crystal Palace 2, Fulham 0.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Hyde 0, Horwich 3. South Liverpool 2, Southport 2. Bangor City 0, Stalybridge 1. First division: Rossendale 1, Caernarfon 0.

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Bognor Regis 1, Windsor and Eton 1. First division: Harrow 1, Dulwich 1. Second division south: Ruislip Manor 0, Abingdon Town 2.

WEEKLY WYNNER LEAGUE: Premier division: Guiseley 3, Belper 0.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chelmsford 0, Wealdstone 0. Midland division: Hednesford 3, Tamworth 2, Willenhall 1, Alvechurch 3.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Mangotsfield 0, Taunton 1, Ottery St Mary 0, Plymouth Argyle 5. First division: Yeovil 1, Calne 2.

WENDY FAIR CAPITAL LEAGUE: Brentford 2, Wycombe Wanderers 2.

ADIDAS ENGLISH SCHOOLS INTER-COUNTY TROPHY: Regional final: Lincolnshire 1, Derbyshire 0.

SNOOKER

SHEFFIELD: Embassy world championship: First round: *N Foulds* (Eng) bt E Charlton (Aus), 10-7 Frames (Foulds first) 42-68, 65-30, 73-47, 72-29, 4-72, 58-65, 62-23, 81-47, 21-68, 41-70, 85-34, 67-18, 51-63, 76-23, 73-16, 25-64, 80-46. T Griffiths (Wales) leads B Pinches (Eng), 6-2. Frames (Griffiths first) 10-81, 73-13, 93-0, 61-14, 27-80, 62-3, 63-45. D Taylor (N Ire) bt J Johnson (Eng), 10-6. Frames (Taylor first) 84-44, 83-37, 90-0, 36-90, 73-27, 85-0, 49-54, 37-64, 77-47, 107-24, 16-77, 42-78, 38-72, 81-23, 85-33, 73-23. G Wilkinson (Eng) leads D Mountjoy (Wales), 8-1. Frames (Mountjoy first) 16-89, 24-79, 40-78, 0-120, 28-76, 48-65, 43-61, 74-1, 0-78.

TENNIS

ATP RANKINGS: 1, S Edberg (Swe), 3,783pts; 2, B Becker (Ger), 3,440; 3, I Lendl (Cz), 2,824; 4, A Agassi (US), 1,902; 5, G Forget (Fr), 1,885; 6, P Sampras (US), 1,585; 7, J Courier (US), 1,523; 8, G Ivanisevic (Yug), 1,516; 9, M Chang (US), 1,428; 10, J Svensson (Swe), 1,388.

WTA RANKINGS: 1, M Seles (Yug); 2, S Graf (Ger); 3, G Sabatini (Arg); 4, M Navratilova (US); 5, M J Fernandez (US); 6, A Sanchez Vicario (Sp); 7, J Novotna (Cz); 8, Z Garrison (US); 9, M Maleeva-Fragniere (Switz); 10, K Maleeva (Bul). Leading money-winners: 1, Seles, $488,058; 2, Sabatini $433,391; 3, Novotna, $258,258; 4, M J Fernandez, $227,050; 5, Navratilova, $189,575; 6, Graf, $181,851; 7, Sanchez Vicario, $147,816; 8, H Sukova (Cz), $137,058; 9, N Zvereva (USSR) $123,043; 10, G Fernandez, $115,680.

BARCELONA: Women's tournament: First round: M Kidowaki (Japan) bt D Monami (Bel), 7-5, 6-3; S Farina (It) bt C Bakkum (Neth), 3-6, 6-3, 6-2; E Bottini (Sp) bt I Demongeot (Fr), 7-5, 6-1; N Avila (Sp) bt C Dual (Ger), 6-0, 6-3; N Van Lottum (Fr) bt P Perez (Sp), 6-1, 6-2; N Housset (Fr) bt B Bowes (UAE), 5-7, 6-3, 6-3; C Tessi (Arg) bt T Morton (Aus), 6-4, 6-4; N Jagerman (Neth) bt M Laval (Fr), 6-2, 7-6, 7-6; P Etchemendy (Fr) bt K Oeljeklaus (Ger), 6-4, 3-6, 6-1; S Frankl (Ger) bt C Mothes (Fr), 5-7, 6-3, 6-1; S Wasserman (Bel) bt A Kanellopoulou (Gr), 6-3, 6-3.

GOLF

US RYDER CUP POINTS: 1, P Azinger 501,250; 2, L Wadkins, 482,688; 3, F Couples, 455,000; 4, P Stewart, 421,250; 5, H Irwin, 400,000; 6, T Simpson, 391,250; 7, W Levi, 382,500; 8, *M Calcavecchia*, 380,000; 9, M O'Meara, 350,417; 10, T Kite 314,843.

US PGA TOUR: Leading money-winners (US unless stated): 1, I Woosnam (GB) $476,883; 2, R Mediate $470,467; 3, L Wadkins, $468,256; 4, P Azinger, $419,383; 5, C Pavin, $401,292; 6, D Love III, $397,836; 7, S Pate, $392,075; 8, S Elkington (Aus), $352,728; 9, A Magee, $344,004; 10, C Strange, $319,081.

SCHOOLS: Golf Foundation team championship (at Kilmarnock): 1, McLaren HS, Callander, 238 (B Collier 74, D Love 83, A Marton 81). Best individual: Collier, 74.

HOCKEY

PERONI SOUTH LEAGUE

Premier division

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bournemouth	15	12	1	2	37	15	37
Fareham	15	11	2	2	42	12	35
Oxford H	*15*	*10*	*2*	*3*	*35*	*14*	*32*
Anchorians	15	9	2	4	41	25	29
Chichester	15	9	2	4	31	19	29
High Wycombe	15	7	5	3	29	23	26
Eastcote	15	7	4	4	24	19	25
Staines	15	4	6	5	30	34	18
Bognor	15	5	3	7	28	37	18
Tunbridge W	15	5	2	8	16	28	17
O Tauntonians	15	4	4	7	22	31	16
Camberley	15	4	4	7	20	30	16
Worthing	15	4	3	8	20	30	15
M Russells	15	4	2	9	16	27	14
Winchester	15	1	3	11	11	32	6
O Mid-Whitgiftians	15	0	3	12	15	41	3

ICE HOCKEY

FINLAND: World championships (Group A): In Turku: Czechoslovakia 4, Switzerland 1. Czechoslovakia 7 Germany 1. Helsinki: United States 4, Sweden 4. Canada 5, Finland 3.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup play-offs. Second round: Norris Division. Finals. Minnesota North Stars 5, Louis Blues 1 (North Stars lead best of seven series, 2-1). Smythe Division: Finals: Edmonton Oilers 4, Los Angeles Kings 3 (aet) (Oilers lead 2-1).

REAL TENNIS

LORD'S: George Wimpey British amateur championship: First round: J Snow bt S Clive, 6-0, 6-1, 6-2; N Pendrigh bt M Ward, 6-1, 6-2, 6-1; A Page bt C Dean, 6-3, 6-4, 6-0.

RUGBY LEAGUE

SLALOM LAGER ALLIANCE: First division: Widnes 22, Castleford 23.

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Ebbw Vale 6, Maesteg 32.

BOXING

GLASGOW: Official eliminator for British lightweight title (10 rnds): Brian Roche (Bacup) ko Kris McAdam (Glasgow), 2nd rnd. Featherweight (6 rnds): Mike Deveney (Paisley) bt Neil Leitch (Scunthorpe), pts.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

WORLD LEAGUE (WLAF): New York-New Jersey Knights 28, Sacramento Surge 20.

CRICKET

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Forty Club 139, Downside 140-3. MCC 232-5 (Lane 113), Wellington College 124. Pocklington 270-2, Repton 276-3 (Paulson 103). Rendcomb College 110 and 107-7. Wycliff College 105-7 dec. Wellington College 201-6, Free Foresters 203-6.

HOVE (55 overs): Sussex 159, Yorkshire 160-1 (A A Metcalfe 91no). Yorkshire won by nine wickets.

SPEEDWAY

GOLD CUP: First division: Reading 49, Ipswich 40, Wolverhampton 60, Coventry 30. Second division: Exeter 63, Arena Essex 27.

TOUR MATCH: Newcastle 54, Hungary 36.

OLYMPIC GAMES

Thirty minutes that may make London famous

By John Goodbody

THE British Olympic Association (BOA) will today consider the rival bids of London and Manchester to stage the Olympic Games in 2000.

Although Manchester secured only five votes in the second round in its attempt to secure the 1996 Games, it has had longer to prepare than London, whose efforts were hampered by a dispute between two bodies trying to make rival bids.

London's supporters will attempt to persuade the BOA that most International Olympic Committee (IOC) members will seriously consider a British bid only if it comes from the capital.

They are hoping to woo a majority of the 35 members of the BOA, whose votes will be cast in a secret ballot. These consist of the Princess Royal and Mary Glen-Haig, the IOC members in Britain; Sir Arthur Gold, the chairman of the BOA; Eileen Grey, the vice-chairman; Robert Watson, the honorary treasurer; and representatives of the governing bodies of 25 summer and five winter sports.

The BOA will meet at 10am for the report of the evaluation commission, comprising Peter Coni from rowing, Craig Reedie from badminton, and *Bill* Slater, the former England footballer and Sports Council administrator, who is now a gymnastics official. Over the last four months, the commission's job has been to assess the technical merit of the two bids.

London will have 30 minutes *to present its case. All six* members of its board, Sebastian Coe, David Teasdale, Ron Emes, Fred Smallbone, John Lelliott and Richard Sumray, will speak. The board is a fusion of the two groups, London Olympic 2000 and the London Council of Sport and Recreation, which took so long to present a united face. BOA members will have 30 minutes to question the London board.

Manchester will be led by Bob Scott, its chairman, and Graham Stringer, the leader of the city council. It will be given the same time for presentation and questions. After lunch, BOA *members will discuss the issues* before voting.

NETBALL

Door to Games is thrown open

By Louise Taylor

NETBALL is poised to feature on the agendas of future Commonwealth Games. Officials of the All England Netball Association (AENA) were yesterday received a letter informing them that, at a meeting in Malta ealier this month, the general assembly of the Commonwealth Games had decided that the sport would be included in future Games, provided the host country wanted it in the programme.

With team games never previously part of Commonwealth Games it is an innovative decision, which could see an England team flying to Canada in 1994. Even if the Canadians objected, netball would be bound to figure in the schedule for 1998, because of the game's popularity in Australia, the host.

Liz Nicholl, the AENA's chief executive, said: "We are thrilled, the door is open now."

Closer to home, Surrey completed a league and cup double on Sunday when they beat Birmingham in the final of the Evian inter-county tournament at Anerley, south-east London.

Considering that Surrey were deprived of Sandra Fairweather and Alison Keyte, who, having just returned from the New Zealand tour, were ineligible, and had lost Barbara Taylor through injury at half-time, victory was all the more commendable.

In the under-21 category, Middlesex prevailed by 12-11 against Hertfordshire, with the winning goal scored inside the final second. Several England players came directly from a return flight from New Zealand to cheer their counties on.

Bedfordshire were alarmed to see that Kendra Lowe's knee was again swathed in bandages. The England and Bedfordshire captain, who has missed much of this season through injury, underwent an operation in New Zealand to remove a piece of floating cartilage. Although they lost all three of their matches against New Zealand, Betty Galsworthy, the England coach, was heartened by the relative narrowness of their 57-44 defeat in the final encounter at Dunedin.

This weekend sees netball returning to Anerley in the shape of the NatWest youth championships at under-16, under-18, and under-21 levels, with two clubs from each region competing in the three categories. The seniors are involved in the semi-finals of the national clubs competition, Harborne facing Tongham, of Hampshire, in Bedford, while Linden compete with Wirral in Stone, Staffordshire.

Atkins foresees £50m for sport from pools

By John Goodbody

ROBERT Atkins, the minister for sport, yesterday said sport might get £50 million annually from the foundation which is being set up by the football pools. He also said that he thought the foundation would get a total of £75 million, to be split between sport and the arts.

However, Atkins emphasised that the legal ramifications and details of the foundation, which was announced in the budget last month, were still being worked out. It was possible the arts could get the bulk of the money.

It was originally thought that arts and sport between them would get only £60 million from a deal proposed by Littlewoods, which was petrified at the prospect of the government introducing a national lottery to benefit sport, arts and the environment, so reducing its profits.

Finance will be raised by reducing the tax on the pools companies from 40 to 37.5 per cent, which will provide £20 million. The rest will come from pools stakes.

Upset at not being consulted on the original deal, the other big pools companies, Vernons and Zetters, began detailed discussions with the Treasury last week. It is widely believed that existing legislation, passed when the Football Trust was established, will mean that the bulk of the money from the pools companies must go to sport rather than the arts.

Winners will play new course

MR ERIC Innes and Mr P. Simpson are the winners of *The Times'* competition offering places in the special golf event preceding the Volvo PGA championship next month.

Mr Innes, who lives at Wolfridge Ride, Alveston, Bristol, and has a handicap of six at Henbury Golf Club, and Mr Simpson, who lives at Bilbury Close, Walkwood, Redditch, and plays off seven at Redditch GC, will play as *The Times* team in the Corporate Cup on the new Edinburgh course at Wentworth on May 23, the day before the Volvo PGA tournament.

There are three runners-up, who each win a prize of a day out for two as the guests of Volvo at Wentworth on Sunday, May 26.

The runners-up are: Mr W. J Ames, of Dollery Drive, Edgbaston, Birmingham; Mr J. Connelly, of Hook Heath Road, Woking, Surrey; and Mr Chris Lane, of Portsmouth Road, Surbiton, Surrey.

The answers were: 1, Ian Woosnam; 2, John Jacobs; 3, Gary Player; 4, Helen Alfredsson; 5, 1926; 6, Mike Harwood.

THE TIMES

SPORT

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A strangely wooden performance from the old stager of tennis

Even the sun averts its gaze from Borg's eclipse

By Andrew Longmore
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
MONTE CARLO

EVEN the toughest minds can play tricks. Bjorn Borg protested long and hard after a 78-minute 6-2, 6-3 defeat yesterday that he needed more matches to improve, but the verdict from all those who remembered his great days and many who did not was that, at the age of nearly 35, he has played one tennis match too many.

It was not so much that he lost to Jordi Arrese, a moderate clay-court player ranked 52, in the first round of the Monte Carlo Open, but that there was not even a glimpse of a souvenir.

A backhand pass greeted the Spaniard's first foray to the net; the rest was much what you might have expected — and many feared — from a 34-year-old who had not played a competitive match for seven years and had not really played properly for ten. It made all the rumours, innuendo and hype which have accompanied his return seem as out of place as the Russian flag flying over the home of western capitalism in honour of last year's champion, Andrei Chesnokov.

Ron Thatcher, Borg's mental and physical fitness adviser, who sat impassively beneath a white Panama hat at the side of the court, has described Borg as just an ordinary bloke. "Now the Swede is a very ordinary tennis player, too," Lennart Bergelin, Borg's former coach, said. "My heart hurt for him today. He just seemed scared to hit the ball."

Slowly but surely, the hopes of the 7,000 who crowded on to the centre court, where Borg had won three titles, and whose cheers had touched the clifftops at the sight of the familiar rolling walk, were suffocated by a blanket of reality. Even the sun hid behind the clouds midway through the second set as if embarrassed by the spectacle below. At one moment, it seemed that rain might further dampen the spirits, but, luckily, Arrese managed to execute the gentlest of kills just before it came.

Despite the weight of evidence, Borg remained unrepentant about his decision to return and he still plans to play in the Italian and French Opens next month. "The outcome did not surprise me. Everybody's expectations were higher than mine. It is simply a matter of playing more matches," he said in answer to most of the post-match questions. If only his game had been as consistent.

Yet much about Borg fuelled expectation and encouraged reminiscence. The figure, still trim after nine months of hard practice, the hair still in need of a trim, the headband, the long sweep of the backhand which starts two-handed and ends one-handed, the easy service action, the wooden racket loosely held. Unfortunately, the pace and power of his shots had escaped the time warp.

Cheers, either of relief or encouragement, it was hard to tell, greeted the landmarks: his first point after two minutes, his first game after six, his first break of service in the seventh game. Each masked the truth that Arrese, without having to play particularly well, was comfortably in control, unaffected by the nerves which some thought would be Borg's main weapon.

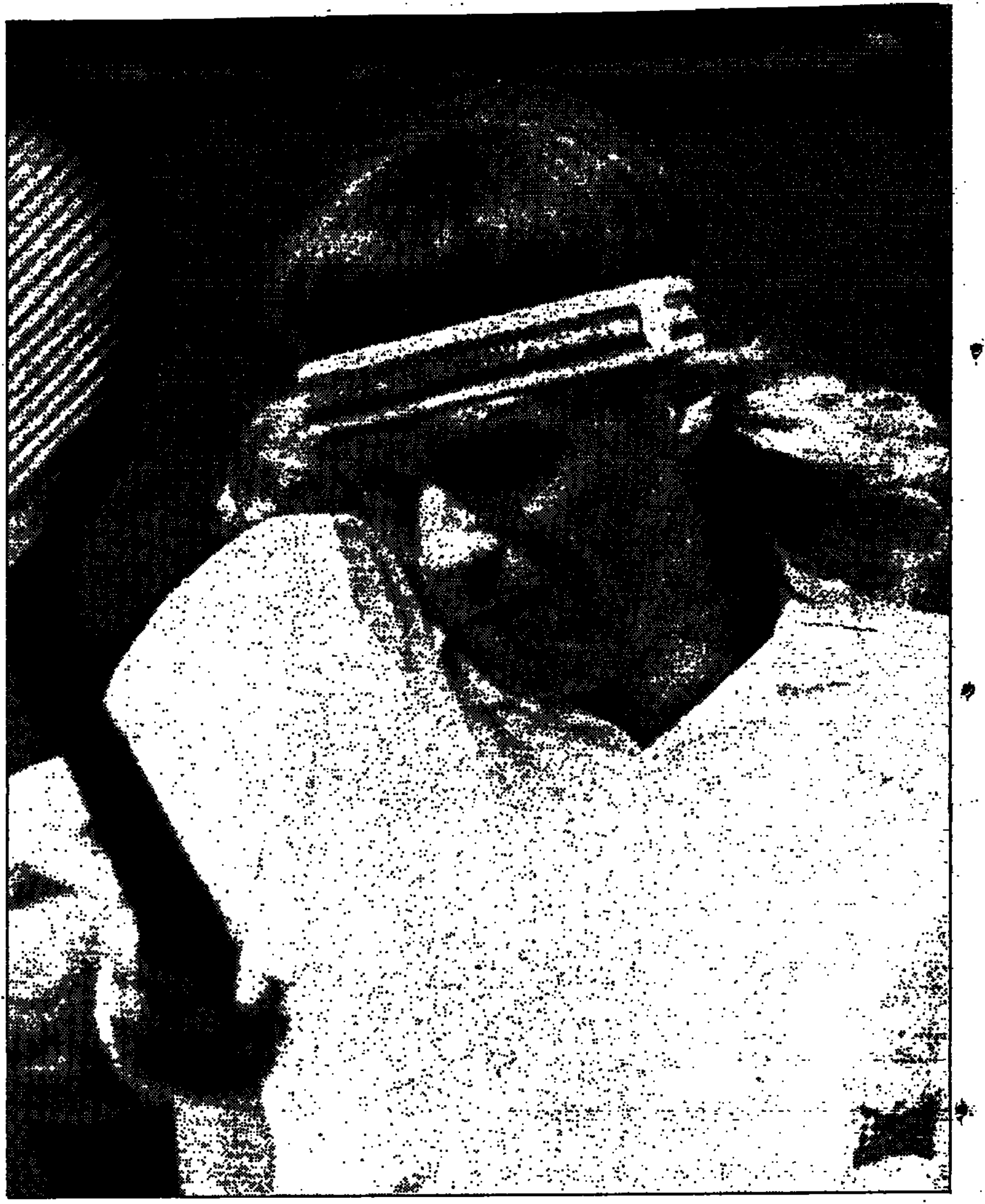
"It was bad for him that he played someone like me," the Spaniard said. "I did not make any mistakes. He would have been better playing a serve-and-volleyer who made more mistakes." But Borg had fared no better against Henri Leconte, just such a player, on his previous two comebacks.

The one glimmer of fulfilment for Borg came early in the second set when he broke Arrese for the second time, thanks mainly to two double-faults by the Spaniard. Borg, though, lost his own service immediately and, when three elementary errors gifted Arrese another break in the eighth game, the script on the wall could be read from a mile away.

Only Borg, who pockets $2,960 as a first-round loser and one computer point for his day's work, is unable to read the message. "As long as I am still enjoying the game and wanting to practise, I will keep playing," he said.

At least one person enjoyed the whole experience. "The moment when I walked on to court was very moving," Arrese said. "Playing Bjorn will stay in my heart forever." Everyone else was praying for the onset of selective amnesia.

FIRST ROUND: J Arrese (Sp) bt B Borg (Swe), 6-2, 6-3; G Perez-Roldan (Arg) bt T Tulasne (Fr), 6-0, 6-4; D Pescariu (Rom) bt F Davin (Arg), 6-4, 1-0 (Davin ret hurt); M Gustafsson (Swe) bt U Riglewski (Ger), 6-7, 6-2, 6-4; M Larsson (Swe) bt D Rikl (Cz), 6-3, 6-1; V Paloheimo (Fin) bt T Muster (Austria), 6-7, 6-2, 6-1; R Fromberg (Aus) bt M Jaite (Arg), 6-3, 6-2; O Camporese (It) bt A Gomez (Ec), 6-3, 3-6, 6-1; M Koevermans (Neth) bt L Mattar (Br), 6-3, 6-2; H Skoff (Austria) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr), 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; A Cherkasov (USSR) bt E Jelen (Ger), 6-0, 6-2; P Haarhuis (Neth) bt C Bergstrom (Swe), 6-3, 6-2.



Unhappy return: Borg, called an ordinary bloke by his mentor, becoming a very ordinary one on court yesterday

Whichello looks for a modest return

RICHARD Whichello, the Kent player who has been helping Bjorn Borg practise in London, is to compete in the qualifying event of the LTA Spring Satellite tournament at Bracknell which starts today.

While Borg began his comeback in Monte Carlo yesterday, Whichello's sights are set much lower. The Spring Satellite circuit lasts four weeks and has only £25,000 in prize-money. More importantly, in the final week at Ottershaw a Masters event among the top 24 points scorers will offer ATP computer points.

World ranking points will be at stake in all four women's events, however.

Whichello, who has spent most of the past 18 months coaching because he has no sponsor and cannot afford to play on the circuit, is keen to regain a world ranking. His inactivity has left him out of the leading 20 players in Britain, but he has been good enough to beat Borg occasionally in practice.

Julie Pullin, the 15-year-old Hove prospect, has been given a direct entry into the women's singles while Lucie Ahl, aged 16, from Exeter, and Heather Matthews, aged 15, from Reading, have wild cards.

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England ready to tour South Africa

By David Hands, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY Wood, secretary of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), met South Africa's President F W de Klerk at a function in London last night, but the topic of resumed rugby links was not expected to be discussed at length.

England were the last country to play South Africa, in 1984, and the RFU has been granted permission to bring forward two scheduled tours, provided the moves to dismantle apartheid continue.

However, Don Rutherford, the Rugby Union technical director, pointed out: "The re-entry of South Africa into international sport largely depends on the agreement of Nelson Mandela and Chief Buthelezi. If they say that sport is now back on the international agenda there will be a rush to play South Africa in most sports, including ours.

"We are scheduled to host South Africa in 1994 and we are due to tour there in 1996. The board has said that we can bring those dates forward. If the situation opens out we are ready to go."

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Mendy jailed for 2½ years for attempting £1m fraud

AMBROSE Mendy, the boxing promoter, was jailed for 2½ years yesterday for being the organiser of a fraud which, if successful, could have netted him more than £1,120,200.

Earlier Nigel Benn, the former World Boxing Organisation middleweight champion, told the Wood Green Crown Court how he and his manager were like brothers.

When the jury foreman pronounced the guilty verdict, Mendy's wife became hysterical and was led from the court by Suzannah Mizzi, a photographer's model, and Benn. Mendy, jailed three times previously — the longest for six years in 1983 — shouted "Take care everyone, I'll be back," as he was led to the cells.

Mendy, a millionaire, was also ordered to pay £20,800 costs. Judge Kenneth Zucker said this was an "ingenious, well-planned and audacious case of fraudulent conduct with very great rewards if it had proved successful.

"Of the 12 frauds we have heard about, in five cases, the total was £1,120,200. I'm quite satisfied that you were at the heart of these frauds. You were the organiser. You collected the information that made them possible.

"I take into account the work you have done in sport for young people, both black and white in the community, and I shall give that full weight."

Mendy's plan was to obtain company signatures to authorise the big bank payouts. He and his conspirators called 12 firms pretending to represent the banks. They asked for a new authorising signature of computer failure which a messenger would collect. The plan was then to call the banks pretending to be the company and ask for the cash money with the genuine signature.

The largest attempt was to defraud F. J. C. Lilley of £472,000. Suspicious bankers double-checked the caller's identities and the money was never handed over. In Mendy's World Sport Corporation offices, police found 'a fraudster's index' of notes listing the victim's details hidden in a space in a toilet roof.

A handwriting expert said the details written on memo slips were written by Mendy, after studying love notes to his wife. Mendy denied he ever wrote the memos or the love notes. The jury were told one of his fingerprints was found on a slip.

Defending, Judith Nutt, said: "He is an utterly devoted husband and father. He has achieved considerable success."

Wilkinson's mourning after

By Steve Acteson

GARY Wilkinson, a qualifier, yesterday defeated Doug Mountjoy, the No. 5 seed, in the Embassy world snooker championship at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield. With his 10-2 win, Wilkinson will replace Mountjoy in the top eight rankings next season.

However, Wilkinson, from Kirkby-in-Ashfield, found little consolation in either that prospect or in reaching the tournament's last 16. Instead, he was mourning his lost chance of glory the previous evening. Having made 15 reds and blacks in the fourth frame and with only the second maximum 147 break in world championship history and a £100,000 special prize seemingly at his mercy, he had missed a straightforward yellow.

"It was very hard to push that to the back of my mind and just get on with the match," Wilkinson said yesterday. "It wasn't the money, I just wanted to make my mark in history at the Crucible. That's what hurts more than anything. But I practised the same shot twice this morning and missed it again."

Mountjoy, 8-1 down overnight, won the opening frame yesterday with a break of 49, but Wilkinson took the next with a colours clearance to pink, then won the twelfth frame 68-0.

Mountjoy said: "If I could have won a couple more frames today, I might have put him under a bit of pressure, but at 8-1 overnight he was in the driving seat. I really felt for Gary when he missed out on that maximum break but on the other hand he was the last player I wanted to play in the first round here."

Ferguson orders United to reach final in style

By Stuart Jones, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

MANCHESTER United have not been in a final of a continental competition since they beat Benfica 4-1 at Wembley in 1968 to become the first English club to be crowned as the champions of England. Tonight, in front of a capacity crowd at Old Trafford, the prolonged wait will surely end.

Failure to reach the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup would be perceived as a calamity of the most embarrassing proportions. United, holding a 3-1 lead over Legia Warsaw from the first leg, have never been beaten at home by foreign opponents, let alone by the required margin.

The Poles, who were depleted a fortnight ago, are no less enfeebled now. Szczesny, their goalkeeper, and Jozwiak, their sweeper, who was sent off for man-handling Sharpe before the interval in Warsaw, are both suspended, and Kubicki, their captain and lone international representative, is still unavailable through injury.

United, therefore, are more or less guaranteed a place against either Barcelona, who are also 3-1 ahead, or Juventus in Rotterdam on May 15. Nevertheless, Alex Ferguson, guarding against natural complacency, will demand that his side qualify for the final in a positive and forceful manner.

The return of Robson, the captain, who was suspended from the first leg, promises to instill a sense of urgency which might otherwise have been absent. United's followers, and especially those who attended the Rumbelows Cup final on Sunday, will also expect to be treated to an extravaganza.

Another limp, listless and colourless performance would be intolerable. "It flattens you," Ferguson said yesterday. "You can't explain what happened against Sheffield Wednesday. We are still trying to get over it, but if we get into the final, we will have achieved something and that will help to ease the disappointment. Once you reach a final, anything can happen."

Wednesday provided appropriately fresh evidence of the unexpected, but Ferguson has sent Brian Kidd, the youth team coach and a member of the triumphant side 23 years ago, and Brian Whitehouse to watch the second leg of the other semi-final in Turin to seek more information.

Ince, who has a damaged knee, is United's only doubt. Since he received a caution earlier in the competition and would be automatically suspended from the final should he be booked again, he is unlikely to be risked anyway. His omission would conveniently make way for Robson.

Pallister has recovered from a ricked neck and, with Bruce, should again pose genuine threats at set pieces. Even Legia's coach, Wladyslaw Stachurski, concedes that his side lacks height and will again be vulnerable against the giant central defenders as well as against the speed of Sharpe.

The 19-year-old left winger was irrepressible two weeks ago. Appreciably quicker than Gmur, the hapless full back vainly attempting to contain him, Sharpe turned the afternoon into a personal exhibition of his pace and trickery. He could do so again.

Walsh, aged 23, the reserve goalkeeper, will make only his 33rd appearance for the first team in place of the wounded Sealey. After four operations on a mysterious foot injury, he feared that his career might be over. It is likely to continue at least during the domestic fixtures for the rest of the season.

Of his goalkeeper, Ferguson said: "He's still got a bit to do to get to where he was three years ago, but he's had a really good season and he's done well to reach this level within a year of surgery. We have confidence in him, he has good mobility and his presence is superb."

Walsh, who underwent unique surgery to rescue his career in January last year, said: "That was my fourth operation and the physician said that if it didn't work, I would be finished.

"They took a bit of bone from my hip and put it in place of the bone I had broken in my ankle. It was the first operation of its kind. It worked, there's no pain now."

Walsh may not be able to illustrate his qualities tonight, though. In spite of the claims of Stachurski, who believes that the outcome will not be as dispiriting as it was in his own homeland, Legia fashioned only one attack during the whole of the first leg. Ferguson will urge United to prevent them from being any more dangerously creative.

League Council to consider curbs on contracts

By Keith Macklin

SWEEPING changes in the contracts system, both for home and overseas players, will be discussed at next month's meeting of the Rugby League Council.

The main recommendation of Ronnie Teeman's working party, which considered contracts throughout all three divisions, is that a ceiling of £60,000 a season be imposed on first-division clubs for the recruitment of overseas players. The party has also recommended changes which would free clubs from spending heavily on players who fail to meet expectations, either through injury or early departure.

Teeman, a Leeds solicitor and a League Council member for Bramley, said: "The study group of five has had to examine what is the root cause of high contract payments, and it would appear that market forces have caused the escalation. There is undoubtedly a serious shortage in this country of high-class players and, as a result, players of only moderate ability have had the opportunity of earning enhanced fees."

The cost of importing leading players from Australia and New Zealand, the group reckons in a "conservative estimate", is at least £2 million a year while each club is permitted up to three at any time. Two of the most expensive recent signings from New Zealand have been John Gallagher and Frano Botica, the former All Blacks, who joined Leeds and Wigan respectively for six-figure fees.

The group's recommendation does not mean that the figure of £60,000 could not be exceeded by an ambitious and wealthy club. There would be no "contract capping", but any club exceeding the £60,000 on overseas contracts would have to pay a levy, equal to the excess, to the League's development fund. Second- and third-division clubs would have limits of £30,000 and £20,000.

The council will have to consider other factors involved in assessing a contract fee, such as the provision of houses, cars and other inducements.

The working party says in its conclusion: "The hire of overseas players took money out of the British game, contributing to the stagnation of the home transfer market and higher contract demands from domestic players."

While the overseas limit would affect successful big spenders like Wigan, Widnes, Leeds and, in earlier years, Halifax and Hull, other proposals would benefit all, particularly lower-division clubs like Leigh, who are nearly £1 million in the red and have called in an administrator to arrange for the sale of the club.

A key factor in Leigh's financial collapse was the large number of players on expensive fixed contracts which drained funds, and who did not perform to their contract value or who drifted away.

The group recommends that a maximum of ten per cent of contract money be paid in advance, with the remainder in monthly instalments. A central recommendation is that "payments should be related to appearances and success", a suggestion which may prove the most significant of all.

To avoid the stockpiling of players, the present maximum of 50 registered players per club would be gradually reduced to 40. It has also been recommended that the League adopt a structured programme for the recruitment and development of junior players and that it introduce an apprentice scheme. A club signing an apprentice from another club would have to pay compensation.

☐ Stephen Ball, the chairman of Batley, has proposed a competition for second and third division clubs, with a final at Wembley, which will be put to the Rugby League board of directors next month.